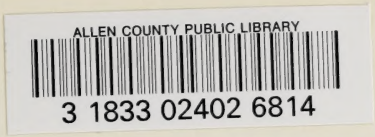
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HISTORY

OF

HANCOCK COUNTY,

OHIO.

pt. 1

CONTAINING A HISTORY OF THE COUNTY, ITS TOWNSHIPS, TOWNS, VILLAGES, SCHOOLS, CHURCHES, INDUSTRIES, ETC.; PORTRAITS OF EARLY SETTLERS AND PROMINENT MEN; BIOGRAPHIES; HISTORY OF THE NORTHWEST TERRITORY: HISTORY OF OHIO; STATISTICAL AND MISCELLANEOUS MATTER, ETC., ETC.

ILLUSTRATED.

CHICAGO:
WARNER, BEERS & CO.,
1886.

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JOHN MORRIS COMPANY, PRINTERS
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PREFACE.

1917112

AFTER surmounting many unlooked for obstacles and overcoming unexpected difficulties, we are enabled to present to our patrons the History of Hancock County, which has been in course of preparation for more than a year past. A desire has long existed for a work that would faithfully present a correct, concise and clear record of events, beginning with the Mound-Builders and Indian tribes that once inhabited Ohio, thence tracing the history of this portion of the State down to the present period. That such an undertaking is attended with no little difficulty none will deny, and to procure the material for the compilation of the work, every avenue of reliable information has been diligently and carefully explored. The data have been culled, item by item, from books, pamphlets, periodicals, newspaper files and manuscripts, from State, county and private records, charters, manuals, letters and diaries, as well as from the testimony of living witnesses to many of the events related.

The general history of the county, including its townships and villages, was compiled by Mr. R. C. Brown, of Chicago, Ill., whose many years of experience in the field of historical research have competently fitted him for the work. His effort was more to give a plain and correct statement of facts than to indulge in polished sentences or to attempt a literary tone, for which, it is needless to add, there is little opportunity in a book of this kind. During his labors in Hancock County, Mr. Brown received generous assistance from scores of citizens whose names it is impossible to mention here, but to whom we return our sincere thanks for the interest which they manifested in the progress of the history. We, however, desire to specially acknowledge the valuable services rendered our historian by Messrs. Squire Carlin, Job Chamberlin and Henry Byal, Dr. Charles Oesterlen, Hon. James M. Coffinberry, of Cleveland, Hon. M. C. Whiteley, Henry Brown, Esq., and Willis H. Whiteley, Esq., all of whom freely assisted him to the full extent of their ability.

THE PUBLISHERS.

June, 1886.

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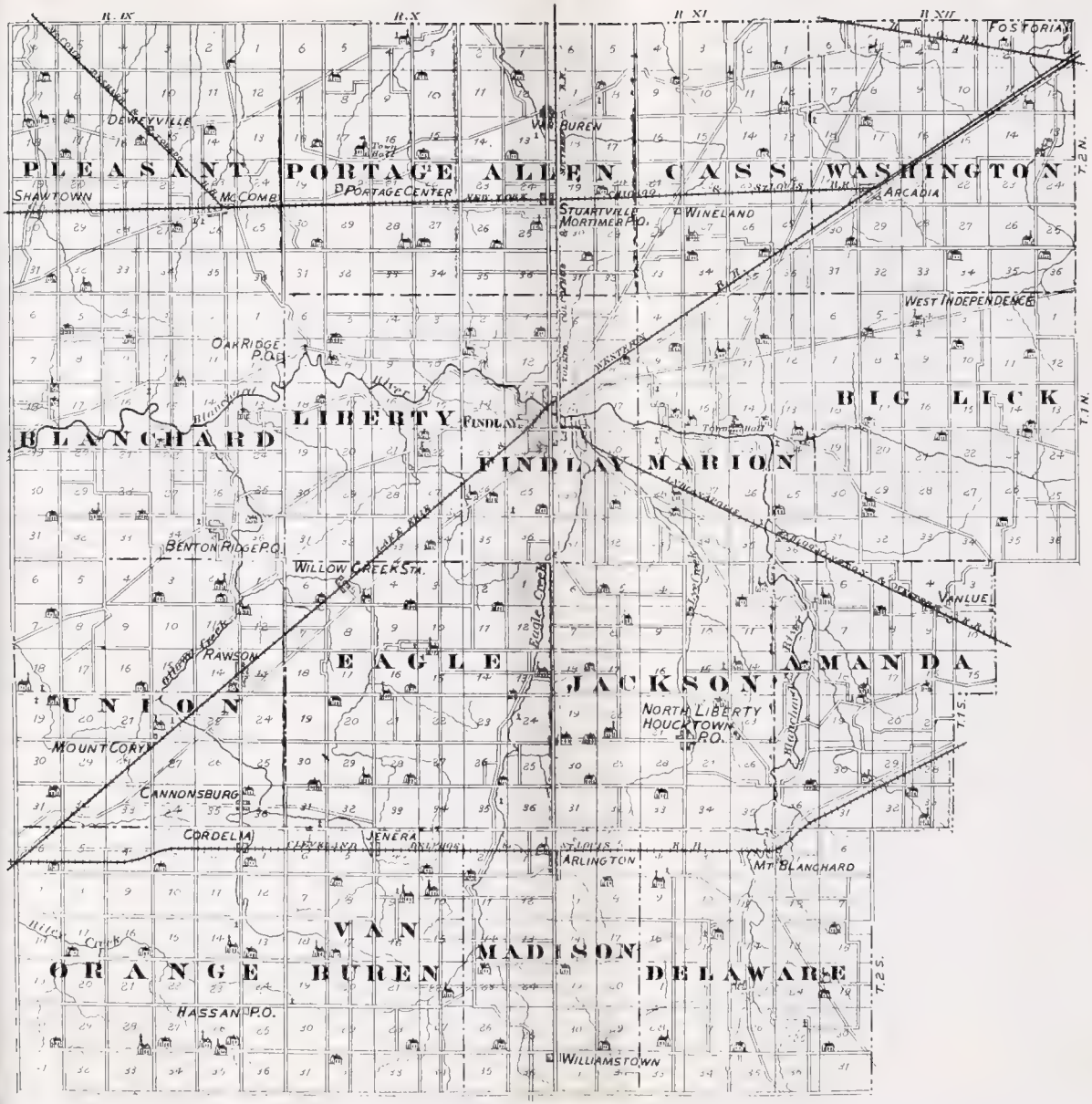
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PLEASANT
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BIG LICK
EAGLE
JACKSON
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UNION
VAN BUREN
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ORANGE
DELAWARE
DEWEYVILLE
SHAWTOWN
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STUARTVILLE
MORTIMER P.O.
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WEST INDEPENDENCE
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RAWSON
NORTH LIBERTY
HOUCKTOWN P.O.
MOUNT CORY
CANNONSBURG
CORDELIA
ARLINGTON
MT. BLANCHARD
HASSAN P.O.
WILLIAMSTOWN



PART I.

THE NORTHWEST TERRITORY.





THE NORTHWEST TERRITORY.

GEOGRAPHICAL POSITION.

When the Northwestern Territory was ceded to the United States by Virginia in 1784, it embraced only the territory lying between the Ohio and the Mississippi Rivers, and north to the northern limits of the United States. It coincided with the area now embraced in the States of Ohio, Indiana, Michigan, Illinois, Wisconsin, and that portion of Minnesota lying on the east side of the Mississippi River. The United States itself at that period extended no farther west than the Mississippi River; but by the purchase of Louisiana in 1803, the western boundary of the United States was extended to the Rocky Mountains and the Northern Pacific Ocean. The new territory thus added to the National domain, and subsequently opened to settlement, has been called the "New Northwest," in contradistinction from the old "Northwestern Territory."

In comparison with the old Northwest this is a territory of vast magnitude. It includes an area of 1,887,850 square miles; being greater in extent than the united areas of all the Middle and Southern States, including Texas. Out of this magnificent territory have been erected eleven sovereign States and eight Territories, with an aggregate population, at the present time, of 18,000,000 inhabitants, or nearly one-third of the entire population of the United States.

Its lakes are fresh-water seas, and the larger rivers of the continent flow for a thousand miles through its rich alluvial valleys and far-stretching prairies, more acres of which are arable and productive of the highest percentage of the cereals than of any other area of like extent on the globe.

For the last twenty years the increase of population in the Northwest has been about as three to one in any other portion of the United States.

EARLY EXPLORATIONS.

In the year 1541, DeSoto first saw the Great West in the New World. He, however, penetrated no farther north than the 35th parallel

of latitude. The expedition resulted in his death and that of more than half his army, the remainder of whom found their way to Cuba, thence to Spain, in a famished and demoralized condition. DeSoto founded no settlements, produced no results, and left no traces, unless it were that he awakened the hostility of the red man against the white man, and disheartened such as might desire to follow up the career of discovery for better purposes. The French nation were eager and ready to seize upon any news from this extensive domain, and were the first to profit by DeSoto's defeat. Yet it was more than a century before any adventurer took advantage of these discoveries.

In 1616, four years before the pilgrims "moored their bark on the wild New England shore," Le Caron, a French Franciscan, had penetrated through the Iroquois and Wyandots (Hurons) to the streams which run into Lake Huron; and in 1634, two Jesuit missionaries founded the first mission among the lake tribes. It was just one hundred years from the discovery of the Mississippi by DeSoto (1541) until the Canadian envoys met the savage nations of the Northwest at the Falls of St. Mary, below the outlet of Lake Superior. This visit led to no permanent result; yet it was not until 1659 that any of the adventurous fur traders attempted to spend a Winter in the frozen wilds about the great lakes, nor was it until 1660 that a station was established upon their borders by Mesnard, who perished in the woods a few months after. In 1665, Claude Allouez built the earliest lasting habitation of the white man among the Indians of the Northwest. In 1668, Claude Dablon and James Marquette founded the mission of Sault Ste. Marie at the Falls of St. Mary, and two years afterward, Nicholas Perrot, as agent for M. Talon, Governor General of Canada, explored Lake Illinois (Michigan) as far south as the present City of Chicago, and invited the Indian nations to meet him at a grand council at Sault Ste. Marie the following Spring, where they were taken under the protection of the king, and formal possession was taken of the Northwest. This same year Marquette established a mission at Point St. Ignatius, where was founded the old town of Michillimackinac.

During M. Talon's explorations and Marquette's residence at St. Ignatius, they learned of a great river away to the west, and fancied— as all others did then — that upon its fertile banks whole tribes of God's children resided, to whom the sound of the Gospel had never come. Filled with a wish to go and preach to them, and in compliance with a request of M. Talon, who earnestly desired to extend the domain of his king, and to ascertain whether the river flowed into the Gulf of Mexico or the Pacific Ocean, Marquette with Joliet, as commander of the expedition, prepared for the undertaking.

On the 13th of May, 1673, the explorers, accompanied by five assist-

ant French Canadians, set out from Mackinaw on their daring voyage of discovery. The Indians, who gathered to witness their departure, were astonished at the boldness of the undertaking, and endeavored to dissuade them from their purpose by representing the tribes on the Mississippi as exceedingly savage and cruel, and the river itself as full of all sorts of frightful monsters ready to swallow them and their canoes together. But, nothing daunted by these terrific descriptions, Marquette told them he was willing not only to encounter all the perils of the unknown region they were about to explore, but to lay down his life in a cause in which the salvation of souls was involved; and having prayed together they separated. Coasting along the northern shore of Lake Michigan, the adventurers entered Green Bay, and passed thence up the Fox River and Lake Winnebago to a village of the Miamis and Kickapoos. Here Marquette was delighted to find a beautiful cross planted in the middle of the town, ornamented with white skins, red girdles and bows and arrows, which these good people had offered to the Great Manitou, or God, to thank him for the pity he had bestowed on them during the Winter in giving them an abundant "chase." This was the farthest outpost to which Dablon and Allouez had extended their missionary labors the year previous. Here Marquette drank mineral waters and was instructed in the secret of a root which cures the bite of the venomous rattlesnake. He assembled the chiefs and old men of the village, and, pointing to Joliet, said: "My friend is an envoy of France, to discover new countries, and I am an ambassador from God to enlighten them with the truths of the Gospel." Two Miami guides were here furnished to conduct them to the Wisconsin River, and they set out from the Indian village on the 10th of June, amidst a great crowd of natives who had assembled to witness their departure into a region where no white man had ever yet ventured. The guides, having conducted them across the portage, returned. The explorers launched their canoes upon the Wisconsin, which they descended to the Mississippi and proceeded down its unknown waters. What emotions must have swelled their breasts as they struck out into the broadening current and became conscious that they were now upon the bosom of the Father of Waters. The mystery was about to be lifted from the long-sought river. The scenery in that locality is beautiful, and on that delightful seventeenth of June, must have been clad in all its primeval loveliness as it had been adorned by the hand of Nature. Drifting rapidly, it is said that the bold bluffs on either hand "reminded them of the castled shores of their own beautiful rivers of France." By-and-by, as they drifted along, great herds of buffalo appeared on the banks. On going to the heads of the valley they could see a country of the greatest beauty and fertility, apparently destitute of

inhabitants, yet presenting the appearance of extensive manors, under the fastidious cultivation of lordly proprietors.

On June 25, they went ashore and found some fresh traces of men upon the sand, and a path which led to the prairie. The men remained in the boat, and Marquette and Joliet followed the path till they discovered a village on the banks of a river, and two other villages on a hill, within a half league of the first, inhabited by Indians. They were received most hospitably by these natives, who had never before seen a white person. After remaining a few days they re-embarked and descended the river to about latitude 33°, where they found a village of the Arkansas, and being satisfied that the river flowed into the Gulf of Mexico, turned their course up the river, and ascending the stream to the mouth of the Illinois, rowed up that stream to its source and procured guides from that point to the lakes. "Nowhere on this journey," says Marquette, "did we see such grounds, meadows, woods, stags, buffaloes, deer, wildcats, bustards, swans, ducks, parroquets, and even beavers, as on the Illinois River." The party, without loss or injury, reached Green Bay in September, and reported their discovery—one of the most important of the age, but of which no record was preserved save Marquette's, Joliet losing his by the upsetting of his canoe on his way to Quebec. Afterward Marquette returned to the Illinois Indians by their request, and ministered to them until 1675. On the 18th of May, in that year, as he was passing the mouth of a stream—going with his boatmen up Lake Michigan—he asked to land at its mouth and celebrate Mass. Leaving his men with the canoe, he retired a short distance and began his devotions. As much time passed and he did not return, his men went in search of him, and found him upon his knees, dead. He had peacefully passed away while at prayer. He was buried at this spot. Charlevoix, who visited the place fifty years after, found the waters had retreated from the grave, leaving the beloved missionary to repose in peace. The river has since been called Marquette.

While Marquette and his companions were pursuing their labors in the West, two men, differing widely from him and each other, were preparing to follow in his footsteps and perfect the discoveries so well begun by him. These were Robert de LaSalle and Louis Hennepin.

After LaSalle's return from the discovery of the Ohio River (see the narrative elsewhere), he established himself again among the French trading posts in Canada. Here he mused long upon the pet project of those ages—a short way to China and the East, and was busily planning an expedition up the great lakes, and so across the continent to the Pacific, when Marquette returned from the Mississippi. At once the vigorous mind of LaSalle received from his and his companions' stories the idea that by fol-

lowing the Great River northward, or by turning up some of the numerous western tributaries, the object could easily be gained. He applied to Frontenac, Governor General of Canada, and laid before him the plan, dim but gigantic. Frontenac entered warmly into his plans, and saw that LaSalle's idea to connect the great lakes by a chain of forts with the Gulf of Mexico would bind the country so wonderfully together, give unmeasured power to France, and glory to himself, under whose administration he earnestly hoped all would be realized.

LaSalle now repaired to France, laid his plans before the King, who warmly approved of them, and made him a Chevalier. He also received from all the noblemen the warmest wishes for his success. The Chevalier returned to Canada, and busily entered upon his work. He at once rebuilt Fort Frontenac and constructed the first ship to sail on these fresh-water seas. On the 7th of August, 1679, having been joined by Hennepin, he began his voyage in the Griffin up Lake Erie. He passed over this lake, through the straits beyond, up Lake St. Clair and into Huron. In this lake they encountered heavy storms. They were some time at Michillimackinac, where LaSalle founded a fort, and passed on to Green Bay, the "Baie des Puans" of the French, where he found a large quantity of furs collected for him. He loaded the Griffin with these, and placing her under the care of a pilot and fourteen sailors, started her on her return voyage. The vessel was never afterward heard of. He remained about these parts until early in the Winter, when, hearing nothing from the Griffin, he collected all the men—thirty working men and three monks—and started again upon his great undertaking.

By a short portage they passed to the Illinois or Kankakee, called by the Indians, "Theakeke," *wolf*, because of the tribes of Indians called by that name, commonly known as the Mahingans, dwelling there. The French pronounced it *Kiakiki*, which became corrupted to Kankakee. "Falling down the said river by easy journeys, the better to observe the country," about the last of December they reached a village of the Illinois Indians, containing some five hundred cabins, but at that moment no inhabitants. The Sieur de LaSalle being in want of some breadstuffs, took advantage of the absence of the Indians to help himself to a sufficiency of maize, large quantities of which he found concealed in holes under the wigwams. This village was situated near the present village of Utica in LaSalle County, Illinois. The corn being securely stored, the voyagers again betook themselves to the stream, and toward evening, on the 4th day of January, 1680, they came into a lake which must have been the lake of Peoria. This was called by the Indians *Pim-i-te-wi*, that is, *a place where there are many fat beasts*. Here the natives were met with in large numbers, but they were gentle and kind, and having spent

some time with them, LaSalle determined to erect another fort in that place, for he had heard rumors that some of the adjoining tribes were trying to disturb the good feeling which existed, and some of his men were disposed to complain, owing to the hardships and perils of the travel. He called this fort "*Crevecœur*" (broken-heart), a name expressive of the very natural sorrow and anxiety which the pretty certain loss of his ship, Griffin, and his consequent impoverishment, the danger of hostility on the part of the Indians, and of mutiny among his own men, might well cause him. His fears were not entirely groundless. At one time poison was placed in his food, but fortunately was discovered.

While building this fort, the Winter wore away, the prairies began to look green, and LaSalle, despairing of any reinforcements, concluded to return to Canada, raise new means and new men, and embark anew in the enterprise. For this purpose he made Hennepin the leader of a party to explore the head waters of the Mississippi, and he set out on his journey. This journey was accomplished with the aid of a few persons, and was successfully made, though over an almost unknown route, and in a bad season of the year. He safely reached Canada, and set out again for the object of his search.

Hennepin and his party left Fort Crevecœur on the last of February, 1680. When LaSalle reached this place on his return expedition, he found the fort entirely deserted, and he was obliged to return again to Canada. He embarked the third time, and succeeded. Seven days after leaving the fort, Hennepin reached the Mississippi, and paddling up the icy stream as best he could, reached no higher than the Wisconsin River by the 11th of April. Here he and his followers were taken prisoners by a band of Northern Indians, who treated them with great kindness. Hennepin's comrades were Anthony Auguel and Michael Ako. On this voyage they found several beautiful lakes, and "saw some charming prairies." Their captors were the Isaute or Sauteurs, Chippewas, a tribe of the Sioux nation, who took them up the river until about the first of May when they reached some falls, which Hennepin christened Falls of St. Anthony in honor of his patron saint. Here they took the land, and traveling nearly two hundred miles to the northwest, brought them to their villages. Here they were kept about three months, were treated kindly by their captors, and at the end of that time, were met by a band of Frenchmen, headed by one Sieur de Luth, who, in pursuit of trade and game, had penetrated thus far by the route of Lake Superior; and with these fellow-countrymen Hennepin and his companions were allowed to return to the borders of civilized life in November, 1680, just after LaSalle had returned to the wilderness on his second trip. Hennepin soon after went to France, where he published an account of his adventures.

The Mississippi was first discovered by De Soto in April, 1541, in his vain endeavor to find gold and precious gems. In the following Spring, De Soto, weary with hope long deferred, and worn out with his wanderings, fell a victim to disease, and on the 21st of May, died. His followers, reduced by fatigue and disease to less than three hundred men, wandered about the country nearly a year, in the vain endeavor to rescue themselves by land, and finally constructed seven small vessels, called brigantines, in which they embarked, and descending the river, supposing it would lead them to the sea, in July they came to the sea (Gulf of Mexico), and by September reached the Island of Cuba.

They were the first to see the great outlet of the Mississippi; but, being so weary and discouraged, made no attempt to claim the country, and hardly had an intelligent idea of what they had passed through.

To La Salle, the intrepid explorer, belongs the honor of giving the first account of the mouths of the river. His great desire was to possess this entire country for his king, and in January, 1682, he and his band of explorers left the shores of Lake Michigan on their third attempt, crossed the Portage, passed down the Illinois River, and on the 6th of February reached the banks of the Mississippi.

On the 13th they commenced their downward course, which they pursued with but one interruption, until upon the 6th of March they discovered the three great passages by which the river discharges its waters into the gulf. La Salle thus narrates the event:

"We landed on the bank of the most western channel, about three leagues (nine miles) from its mouth. On the seventh, M. de La Salle went to reconnoiter the shore of the neighboring sea, and M. de Tonti meanwhile examined the great middle channel. They found the main outlets beautiful, large and deep. On the eighth, we reascended the river, a little above its confluence with the sea, to find a dry place beyond the reach of inundations. The elevation of the North Pole was here about twenty-seven degrees. Here we prepared a column and a cross, and to the column were affixed the arms of France with this inscription:

"Louis Le Grand, Roi de France et de Navarre, regne; Le neuvieme April, 1682."

The whole party, under arms, chanted the *Te Deum*, and then, after a salute and cries of "*Vive le Roi*," the column was erected by M. de La Salle, who, standing near it, proclaimed in a loud voice the authority of the King of France. La Salle returned and laid the foundations of the Mississippi settlements in Illinois; thence he proceeded to France, where another expedition was fitted out, of which he was commander, and in two succeeding voyages failed to find the outlet of the river by sailing

along the shore of the gulf. On the third voyage he was killed, through the treachery of his followers, and the object of his expeditions was not accomplished until 1699, when D'Iberville, under the authority of the crown, discovered, on the second of March, by way of the sea, the mouth of the "Hidden River." This majestic stream was called by the natives "*Malbouchia*," and by the Spaniards, "*la Palissade*," from the great number of trees about its mouth. After traversing the several outlets, and satisfying himself as to its certainty, he erected a fort near its western outlet, and returned to France.

An avenue of trade was now opened out which was fully improved. In 1718, New Orleans was laid out and settled by some European colonists. In 1762, the colony was made over to Spain, to be regained by France under the consulate of Napoleon. In 1803, it was purchased by the United States for the sum of fifteen million dollars, and the territory of Louisiana and commerce of the Mississippi River came under the charge of the United States. Although La Salle's labors ended in defeat and death, he had not worked and suffered in vain. He had thrown open to France and the world an immense and most valuable country; had established several ports, and laid the foundations of more than one settlement there. "Peoria, Kaskaskia and Cahokia, are to this day monuments of LaSalle's labors; for, though he had founded neither of them (unless Peoria, which was built nearly upon the site of Fort Crevecœur,) it was by those whom he led into the West that these places were peopled and civilized. He was, if not the discoverer, the first settler of the Mississippi Valley, and as such deserves to be known and honored."

The French early improved the opening made for them. Before the year 1698, the Rev. Father Gravier began a mission among the Illinois, and founded Kaskaskia. For some time this was merely a missionary station, where none but natives resided, it being one of three such villages, the other two being Cahokia and Peoria. What is known of these missions is learned from a letter written by Father Gabriel Marest, dated "Aux Cascaskias, autrement dit de l'Immaculate Conception de la Sainte Vierge, le 9 Novembre, 1712." Soon after the founding of Kaskaskia, the missionary, Pinet, gathered a flock at Cahokia, while Peoria arose near the ruins of Fort Crevecœur. This must have been about the year 1700. The post at Vincennes on the Oubache river, (pronounced Wă-bă, meaning *summer cloud moving swiftly*,) was established in 1702, according to the best authorities.* It is altogether probable that on LaSalle's last

* There is considerable dispute about this date, some asserting it was founded as late as 1742. When the new court house at Vincennes was erected, all authorities on the subject were carefully examined, and 1702 fixed upon as the correct date. It was accordingly engraved on the corner-stone of the court house.

trip he established the stations at Kaskaskia and Cahokia. In July, 1701, the foundations of Fort Ponchartrain were laid by De la Motte Cadillac on the Detroit River. These stations, with those established further north, were the earliest attempts to occupy the Northwest Territory. At the same time efforts were being made to occupy the Southwest, which finally culminated in the settlement and founding of the City of New Orleans by a colony from England in 1718. This was mainly accomplished through the efforts of the famous Mississippi Company, established by the notorious John Law, who so quickly arose into prominence in France, and who with his scheme so quickly and so ignominiously passed away.

From the time of the founding of these stations for fifty years the French nation were engrossed with the settlement of the lower Mississippi, and the war with the Chickasaws, who had, in revenge for repeated injuries, cut off the entire colony at Natchez. Although the company did little for Louisiana, as the entire West was then called, yet it opened the trade through the Mississippi River, and started the raising of grains indigenous to that climate. Until the year 1750, but little is known of the settlements in the Northwest, as it was not until this time that the attention of the English was called to the occupation of this portion of the New World, which they then supposed they owned. Vivier, a missionary among the Illinois, writing from "Aux Illinois," six leagues from Fort Chartres, June 8, 1750, says: "We have here whites, negroes and Indians, to say nothing of cross-breeds. There are five French villages, and three villages of the natives, within a space of twenty-one leagues situated between the Mississippi and another river called the Karkadaid (Kaskaskias). In the five French villages, are perhaps, eleven hundred whites, three hundred blacks and some sixty red slaves or savages. The three Illinois towns do not contain more than eight hundred souls all told. Most of the French till the soil; they raise wheat, cattle, pigs and horses, and live like princes. Three times as much is produced as can be consumed; and great quantities of grain and flour are sent to New Orleans." This city was now the seaport town of the Northwest, and save in the extreme northern part, where only furs and copper ore were found, almost all the products of the country found their way to France by the mouth of the Father of Waters. In another letter, dated November 7, 1750, this same priest says: "For fifteen leagues above the mouth of the Mississippi one sees no dwellings, the ground being too low to be habitable. Thence to New Orleans, the lands are only partially occupied. New Orleans contains black, white and red, not more, I think, than twelve hundred persons. To this point come all the lumber, bricks, salt-beef, tallow, tar, skins and bear's grease; and above all, pork

and flour from the Illinois. These things create some commerce, as forty vessels and more have come hither this year. Above New Orleans, plantations are again met with; the most considerable is a colony of Germans, some ten leagues up the river. At Point Coupee, thirty-five leagues above the German settlement, is a fort. Along here, within five or six leagues, are not less than sixty habitations. Fifty leagues farther up is the Natchez post, where we have a garrison, who are kept prisoners through fear of the Chickasaws. Here and at Point Coupee, they raise excellent tobacco. Another hundred leagues brings us to the Arkansas, where we have also a fort and a garrison for the benefit of the river traders. * * * From the Arkansas to the Illinois, nearly five hundred leagues, there is not a settlement. There should be, hower, a fort at the Oubache (Ohio), the only path by which the English can reach the Mississippi. In the Illinois country are numberless mines, but no one to work them as they deserve." Father Marest, writing from the post at Vincennes in 1812, makes the same observation. Vivier also says: "Some individuals dig lead near the surface and supply the Indians and Canada. Two Spaniards now here, who claim to be adepts, say that our mines are like those of Mexico, and that if we would dig deeper, we should find silver under the lead; and at any rate the lead is excellent. There is also in this country, beyond doubt, copper ore, as from time to time large pieces are found in the streams.

At the close of the year 1750, the French occupied, in addition to the lower Mississippi posts and those in Illinois, one at Du Quesne, one at the Maumee in the country of the Miamas, and one at Sandusky in what may be termed the Ohio Valley. In the northern part of the Northwest they had stations at St. Joseph's on the St. Joseph's of Lake Michigan, at Fort Ponchartrain (Detroit), at Michillimackanac or Massillimacanac, Fox River at Green Bay, and at Sault Ste. Marie. The fondest dreams of LaSalle were now fully realized. The French alone were possessors of this vast realm, basing their claim on discovery and settlement. Another nation, however, was now turning its attention to this extensive country, and hearing of its wealth, began to lay plans for occupying it and for securing the great profits arising therefrom.

The French, however, had another claim to this country, namely, the

DISCOVERY OF THE OHIO.

This "Beautiful" river was discovered by Robert Cavalier de La-Salle in 1669, four years before the discovery of the Mississippi by Joliet and Marquette.

While LaSalle was at his trading post on the St. Lawrence, he found leisure to study nine Indian dialects, the chief of which was the Iroquois. He not only desired to facilitate his intercourse in trade, but he longed to travel and explore the unknown regions of the West. An incident soon occurred which decided him to fit out an exploring expedition.

While conversing with some Senecas, he learned of a river called the Ohio, which rose in their country and flowed to the sea, but at such a distance that it required eight months to reach its mouth. In this statement the Mississippi and its tributaries were considered as one stream. LaSalle believing, as most of the French at that period did, that the great rivers flowing west emptied into the Sea of California, was anxious to embark in the enterprise of discovering a route across the continent to the commerce of China and Japan.

He repaired at once to Quebec to obtain the approval of the Governor. His eloquent appeal prevailed. The Governor and the Intendant, Talon, issued letters patent authorizing the enterprise, but made no provision to defray the expenses. At this juncture the seminary of St. Sulpice decided to send out missionaries in connection with the expedition, and LaSalle offering to sell his improvements at LaChine to raise money, the offer was accepted by the Superior, and two thousand eight hundred dollars were raised, with which LaSalle purchased four canoes and the necessary supplies for the outfit.

On the 6th of July, 1669, the party, numbering twenty-four persons, embarked in seven canoes on the St. Lawrence; two additional canoes carried the Indian guides. In three days they were gliding over the bosom of Lake Ontario. Their guides conducted them directly to the Seneca village on the bank of the Genesee, in the vicinity of the present City of Rochester, New York. Here they expected to procure guides to conduct them to the Ohio, but in this they were disappointed.

The Indians seemed unfriendly to the enterprise. LaSalle suspected that the Jesuits had prejudiced their minds against his plans. After waiting a month in the hope of gaining their object, they met an Indian from the Iroquois colony at the head of Lake Ontario, who assured them that they could there find guides, and offered to conduct them thence.

On their way they passed the mouth of the Niagara River, when they heard for the first time the distant thunder of the cataract. Arriving among the Iroquois, they met with a friendly reception, and learned from a Shawanee prisoner that they could reach the Ohio in six weeks. Delighted with the unexpected good fortune, they made ready to resume their journey; but just as they were about to start they heard of the arrival of two Frenchmen in a neighboring village. One of them proved to be Louis Joliet, afterwards famous as an explorer in the West. He

had been sent by the Canadian Government to explore the copper mines on Lake Superior, but had failed, and was on his way back to Quebec. He gave the missionaries a map of the country he had explored in the lake region, together with an account of the condition of the Indians in that quarter. This induced the priests to determine on leaving the expedition and going to Lake Superior. LaSalle warned them that the Jesuits were probably occupying that field, and that they would meet with a cold reception. Nevertheless they persisted in their purpose, and after worship on the lake shore, parted from LaSalle. On arriving at Lake Superior, they found, as LaSalle had predicted, the Jesuit Fathers, Marquette and Dablon, occupying the field.

These zealous disciples of Loyola informed them that they wanted no assistance from St. Sulpice, nor from those who made him their patron saint; and thus repulsed, they returned to Montreal the following June without having made a single discovery or converted a single Indian.

After parting with the priests, LaSalle went to the chief Iroquois village at Onondaga, where he obtained guides, and passing thence to a tributary of the Ohio south of Lake Erie, he descended the latter as far as the falls at Louisville. Thus was the Ohio discovered by LaSalle, the persevering and successful French explorer of the West, in 1669.

The account of the latter part of his journey is found in an anonymous paper, which purports to have been taken from the lips of LaSalle himself during a subsequent visit to Paris. In a letter written to Count Frontenac in 1667, shortly after the discovery, he himself says that he discovered the Ohio and descended it to the falls. This was regarded as an indisputable fact by the French authorities, who claimed the Ohio Valley upon another ground. When Washington was sent by the colony of Virginia in 1753, to demand of Gordeur de St. Pierre why the French had built a fort on the Monongahela, the haughty commandant at Quebec replied: "We claim the country on the Ohio by virtue of the discoveries of LaSalle, and will not give it up to the English. Our orders are to make prisoners of every Englishman found trading in the Ohio Valley."

ENGLISH EXPLORATIONS AND SETTLEMENTS.

When the new year of 1750 broke in upon the Father of Waters and the Great Northwest, all was still wild save at the French posts already described. In 1749, when the English first began to think seriously about sending men into the West, the greater portion of the States of Indiana, Ohio, Illinois, Michigan, Wisconsin, and Minnesota were yet under the dominion of the red men. The English knew, however, pretty

conclusively of the nature of the wealth of these wilds. As early as 1710, Governor Spotswood, of Virginia, had commenced movements to secure the country west of the Alleghenies to the English crown. In Pennsylvania, Governor Keith and James Logan, secretary of the province, from 1719 to 1731, represented to the powers of England the necessity of securing the Western lands. Nothing was done, however, by that power save to take some diplomatic steps to secure the claims of Britain to this unexplored wilderness.

England had from the outset claimed from the Atlantic to the Pacific, on the ground that the discovery of the seacoast and its possession was a discovery and possession of the country, and, as is well known, her grants to the colonies extended "from sea to sea." This was not all her claim. She had purchased from the Indian tribes large tracts of land. This latter was also a strong argument. As early as 1684, Lord Howard, Governor of Virginia, held a treaty with the six nations. These were the great Northern Confederacy, and comprised at first the Mohawks, Oneidas, Onondagas, Cayugas, and Senecas. Afterward the Tuscaroras were taken into the confederacy, and it became known as the SIX NATIONS. They came under the protection of the mother country, and again in 1701, they repeated the agreement, and in September, 1726, a formal deed was drawn up and signed by the chiefs. The validity of this claim has often been disputed, but never successfully. In 1744, a purchase was made at Lancaster, Pennsylvania, of certain lands within the "Colony of Virginia," for which the Indians received £200 in gold and a like sum in goods, with a promise that, as settlements increased, more should be paid. The Commissioners from Virginia were Colonel Thomas Lee and Colonel William Beverly. As settlements extended, the promise of more pay was called to mind, and Mr. Conrad Weiser was sent across the mountains with presents to appease the savages. Col. Lee, and some Virginians accompanied him with the intention of sounding the Indians upon their feelings regarding the English. They were not satisfied with their treatment, and plainly told the Commissioners why. The English did not desire the cultivation of the country, but the monopoly of the Indian trade. In 1748, the Ohio Company was formed, and petitioned the king for a grant of land beyond the Alleghenies. This was granted, and the government of Virginia was ordered to grant to them a half million acres, two hundred thousand of which were to be located at once. Upon the 12th of June, 1749, 800,000 acres from the line of Canada north and west was made to the Loyal Company, and on the 29th of October, 1751, 100,000 acres were given to the Greenbriar Company. All this time the French were not idle. They saw that, should the British gain a foothold in the West, especially upon the Ohio, they might not only prevent the French

settling upon it, but in time would come to the lower posts and so gain possession of the whole country. Upon the 10th of May, 1747, Vaudreuil, Governor of Canada and the French possessions, well knowing the consequences that must arise from allowing the English to build trading posts in the Northwest, seized some of their frontier posts, and to further secure the claim of the French to the West, he, in 1749, sent Louis Celeron with a party of soldiers to plant along the Ohio River, in the mounds and at the mouths of its principal tributaries, plates of lead, on which were inscribed the claims of France. These were heard of in 1752, and within the memory of residents now living along the "Oyo," as the beautiful river was called by the French. One of these plates was found with the inscription partly defaced. It bears date August 16, 1749, and a copy of the inscription with particular account of the discovery of the plate, was sent by DeWitt Clinton to the American Antiquarian Society, among whose journals it may now be found.* These measures did not, however, deter the English from going on with their explorations, and though neither party resorted to arms, yet the conflict was gathering, and it was only a question of time when the storm would burst upon the frontier settlements. In 1750, Christopher Gist was sent by the Ohio Company to examine its lands. He went to a village of the Twigtwees, on the Miami, about one hundred and fifty miles above its mouth. He afterward spoke of it as very populous. From there he went down the Ohio River nearly to the falls at the present City of Louisville, and in November he commenced a survey of the Company's lands. During the Winter, General Andrew Lewis performed a similar work for the Greenbriar Company. Meanwhile the French were busy in preparing their forts for defense, and in opening roads, and also sent a small party of soldiers to keep the Ohio clear. This party, having heard of the English post on the Miami River, early in 1652, assisted by the Ottawas and Chippewas, attacked it, and, after a severe battle, in which fourteen of the natives were killed and others wounded, captured the garrison. (They were probably garrisoned in a block house). The traders were carried away to Canada, and one account says several were burned. This fort or post was called by the English Pickawillany. A memorial of the king's ministers refers to it as "Pickawillanes, in the center of the territory between the Ohio and the Wabash. The name is probably some variation of Pickaway or Picqua in 1773, written by Rev. David Jones Pickaweke."

* The following is a translation of the inscription on the plate: "In the year 1749, reign of Louis XV., King of France, we, Celeron, commandant of a detachment by Monsieur the Marquis of Gallisoniere, commander-in-chief of New France, to establish tranquility in certain Indian villages of these cantons, have buried this plate at the confluence of the Toradakoin, this twenty-ninth of July, near the river Ohio, otherwise Beautiful River, as a monument of renewal of possession which we have taken of the said river, and all its tributaries; inasmuch as the preceding Kings of France have enjoyed it, and maintained it by their arms and treaties; especially by those of Ryswick, Utrecht, and Aix La Chapelle."

This was the first blood shed between the French and English, and occurred near the present City of Piqua, Ohio, or at least at a point about forty-seven miles north of Dayton. Each nation became now more interested in the progress of events in the Northwest. The English determined to purchase from the Indians a title to the lands they wished to occupy, and Messrs. Fry (afterward Commander-in-chief over Washington at the commencement of the French War of 1775–1763), Lomax and Patton were sent in the Spring of 1752 to hold a conference with the natives at Logstown to learn what they objected to in the treaty of Lancaster already noticed, and to settle all difficulties. On the 9th of June, these Commissioners met the red men at Logstown, a little village on the north bank of the Ohio, about seventeen miles below the site of Pittsburgh. Here had been a trading point for many years, but it was abandoned by the Indians in 1750. At first the Indians declined to recognize the treaty of Lancaster, but, the Commissioners taking aside Montour, the interpreter, who was a son of the famous Catharine Montour, and a chief among the six nations, induced him to use his influence in their favor. This he did, and upon the 13th of June they all united in signing a deed, confirming the Lancaster treaty in its full extent, consenting to a settlement of the southeast of the Ohio, and guaranteeing that it should not be disturbed by them. These were the means used to obtain the first treaty with the Indians in the Ohio Valley.

Meanwhile the powers beyond the sea were trying to out-manœuvre each other, and were professing to be at peace. The English generally outwitted the Indians, and failed in many instances to fulfill their contracts. They thereby gained the ill-will of the red men, and further increased the feeling by failing to provide them with arms and ammunition. Said an old chief, at Easton, in 1758: "The Indians on the Ohio left you because of your own fault. When we heard the French were coming, we asked you for help and arms, but we did not get them. The French came, they treated us kindly, and gained our affections. The Governor of Virginia settled on our lands for his own benefit, and, when we wanted help, forsook us."

At the beginning of 1653, the English thought they had secured by title the lands in the West, but the French had quietly gathered cannon and military stores to be in readiness for the expected blow. The English made other attempts to ratify these existing treaties, but not until the Summer could the Indians be gathered together to discuss the plans of the French. They had sent messages to the French, warning them away; but they replied that they intended to complete the chain of forts already begun, and would not abandon the field.

Soon after this, no satisfaction being obtained from the Ohio regard-

ing the positions and purposes of the French, Governor Dinwiddie of Virginia determined to send to them another messenger and learn from them, if possible, their intentions. For this purpose he selected a young man, a surveyor, who, at the early age of nineteen, had received the rank of major, and who was thoroughly posted regarding frontier life. This personage was no other than the illustrious George Washington, who then held considerable interest in Western lands. He was at this time just twenty-two years of age. Taking Gist as his guide, the two, accompanied by four servitors, set out on their perilous march. They left Will's Creek on the 10th of November, 1753, and on the 22d reached the Monongahela, about ten miles above the fork. From there they went to Logstown, where Washington had a long conference with the chiefs of the Six Nations. From them he learned the condition of the French, and also heard of their determination not to come down the river till the following Spring. The Indians were non-committal, as they were afraid to turn either way, and, as far as they could, desired to remain neutral. Washington, finding nothing could be done with them, went on to Venango, an old Indian town at the mouth of French Creek. Here the French had a fort, called Fort Machault. Through the rum and flattery of the French, he nearly lost all his Indian followers. Finding nothing of importance here, he pursued his way amid great privations, and on the 11th of December reached the fort at the head of French Creek. Here he delivered Governor Dinwiddie's letter, received his answer, took his observations, and on the 16th set out upon his return journey with no one but Gist, his guide, and a few Indians who still remained true to him, notwithstanding the endeavors of the French to retain them. Their homeward journey was one of great peril and suffering from the cold, yet they reached home in safety on the 6th of January, 1754.

From the letter of St. Pierre, commander of the French fort, sent by Washington to Governor Dinwiddie, it was learned that the French would not give up without a struggle. Active preparations were at once made in all the English colonies for the coming conflict, while the French finished the fort at Venango and strengthened their lines of fortifications, and gathered their forces to be in readiness.

The Old Dominion was all alive. Virginia was the center of great activities; volunteers were called for, and from all the neighboring colonies men rallied to the conflict, and everywhere along the Potomac men were enlisting under the Governor's proclamation—which promised two hundred thousand acres on the Ohio. Along this river they were gathering as far as Will's Creek, and far beyond this point, whither Trent had come for assistance for his little band of forty-one men, who were

working away in hunger and want, to fortify that point at the fork of the Ohio, to which both parties were looking with deep interest.

"The first birds of Spring filled the air with their song; the swift river rolled by the Allegheny hillsides, swollen by the melting snows of Spring and the April showers. The leaves were appearing; a few Indian scouts were seen, but no enemy seemed near at hand; and all was so quiet, that Frazier, an old Indian scout and trader, who had been left by Trent in command, ventured to his home at the mouth of Turtle Creek, ten miles up the Monongahela. But, though all was so quiet in that wilderness, keen eyes had seen the low intrenchment rising at the fork, and swift feet had borne the news of it up the river; and upon the morning of the 17th of April, Ensign Ward, who then had charge of it, saw upon the Allegheny a sight that made his heart sink—sixty batteaux and three hundred canoes filled with men, and laden deep with cannon and stores. * * * That evening he supped with his captor, Contrecœur, and the next day he was bowed off by the Frenchman, and with his men and tools, marched up the Monongahela."

The French and Indian war had begun. The treaty of Aix la Chapelle, in 1748, had left the boundaries between the French and English possessions unsettled, and the events already narrated show the French were determined to hold the country watered by the Mississippi and its tributaries; while the English laid claims to the country by virtue of the discoveries of the Cabots, and claimed all the country from Newfoundland to Florida, extending from the Atlantic to the Pacific. The first decisive blow had now been struck, and the first attempt of the English, through the Ohio Company, to occupy these lands, had resulted disastrously to them. The French and Indians immediately completed the fortifications begun at the Fork, which they had so easily captured, and when completed gave to the fort the name of DuQuesne. Washington was at Will's Creek when the news of the capture of the fort arrived. He at once departed to recapture it. On his way he entrenched himself at a place called the "Meadows," where he erected a fort called by him Fort Necessity. From there he surprised and captured a force of French and Indians marching against him, but was soon after attacked in his fort by a much superior force, and was obliged to yield on the morning of July 4th. He was allowed to return to Virginia.

The English Government immediately planned four campaigns; one against Fort DuQuesne; one against Nova Scotia; one against Fort Niagara, and one against Crown Point. These occurred during 1755–6, and were not successful in driving the French from their possessions. The expedition against Fort DuQuesne was led by the famous General Braddock, who, refusing to listen to the advice of Washington and those

acquainted with Indian warfare, suffered such an inglorious defeat. This occurred on the morning of July 9th, and is generally known as the battle of Monongahela, or "Braddock's Defeat." The war continued with various vicissitudes through the years 1756–7; when, at the commencement of 1758, in accordance with the plans of William Pitt, then Secretary of State, afterwards Lord Chatham, active preparations were made to carry on the war. Three expeditions were planned for this year: one, under General Amherst, against Louisburg; another, under Abercrombie, against Fort Ticonderoga; and a third, under General Forbes, against Fort DuQuesne. On the 26th of July, Louisburg surrendered after a desperate resistance of more than forty days, and the eastern part of the Canadian possessions fell into the hands of the British. Abercrombie captured Fort Frontenac, and when the expedition against Fort DuQuesne, of which Washington had the active command, arrived there, it was found in flames and deserted. The English at once took possession, rebuilt the fort, and in honor of their illustrious statesman, changed the name to Fort Pitt.

The great object of the campaign of 1759, was the reduction of Canada. General Wolfe was to lay siege to Quebec; Amherst was to reduce Ticonderoga and Crown Point, and General Prideaux was to capture Niagara. This latter place was taken in July, but the gallant Prideaux lost his life in the attempt. Amherst captured Ticonderoga and Crown Point without a blow; and Wolfe, after making the memorable ascent to the Plains of Abraham, on September 13th, defeated Montcalm, and on the 18th, the city capitulated. In this engagement Montcalm and Wolfe both lost their lives. De Levi, Montcalm's successor, marched to Sillery, three miles above the city, with the purpose of defeating the English, and there, on the 28th of the following April, was fought one of the bloodiest battles of the French and Indian War. It resulted in the defeat of the French, and the fall of the City of Montreal. The Governor signed a capitulation by which the whole of Canada was surrendered to the English. This practically concluded the war, but it was not until 1763 that the treaties of peace between France and England were signed. This was done on the 10th of February of that year, and under its provisions all the country east of the Mississippi and north of the Iberville River, in Louisiana, were ceded to England. At the same time Spain ceded Florida to Great Britain.

On the 13th of September, 1760, Major Robert Rogers was sent from Montreal to take charge of Detroit, the only remaining French post in the territory. He arrived there on the 19th of November, and summoned the place to surrender. At first the commander of the post, Beletre, refused, but on the 29th, hearing of the continued defeat of the

French arms, surrendered. Rogers remained there until December 23d under the personal protection of the celebrated chief, Pontiac, to whom, no doubt, he owed his safety. Pontiac had come here to inquire the purposes of the English in taking possession of the country. He was assured that they came simply to trade with the natives, and did not desire their country. This answer conciliated the savages, and did much to insure the safety of Rogers and his party during their stay, and while on their journey home.

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Rogers set out for Fort Pitt on December 23, and was just one month on the way. His route was from Detroit to Maumee, thence across the present State of Ohio directly to the fort. This was the common trail of the Indians in their journeys from Sandusky to the fork of the Ohio. It went from Fort Sandusky, where Sandusky City now is, crossed the Huron river, then called Bald Eagle Creek, to "Mohickon John's Town" on Mohickon Creek, the northern branch of White Woman's River, and thence crossed to Beaver's Town, a Delaware town on what is now Sandy Creek. At Beaver's Town were probably one hundred and fifty warriors, and not less than three thousand acres of cleared land. From there the track went up Sandy Creek to and across Big Beaver, and up the Ohio to Logstown, thence on to the fork.

The Northwest Territory was now entirely under the English rule. New settlements began to be rapidly made, and the promise of a large trade was speedily manifested. Had the British carried out their promises with the natives none of those savage butcheries would have been perpetrated, and the country would have been spared their recital.

The renowned chief, Pontiac, was one of the leading spirits in these atrocities. We will now pause in our narrative, and notice the leading events in his life. The earliest authentic information regarding this noted Indian chief is learned from an account of an Indian trader named Alexander Henry, who, in the Spring of 1761, penetrated his domains as far as Missillimacnac. Pontiac was then a great friend of the French, but a bitter foe of the English, whom he considered as encroaching on his hunting grounds. Henry was obliged to disguise himself as a Canadian to insure safety, but was discovered by Pontiac, who bitterly reproached him and the English for their attempted subjugation of the West. He declared that no treaty had been made with them; no presents sent them, and that he would resent any possession of the West by that nation. He was at the time about fifty years of age, tall and dignified, and was civil and military ruler of the Ottawas, Ojibwas and Pottawatamies.

The Indians, from Lake Michigan to the borders of North Carolina, were united in this feeling, and at the time of the treaty of Paris, ratified February 10, 1763, a general conspiracy was formed to fall suddenly

upon the frontier British posts, and with one blow strike every man dead. Pontiac was the marked leader in all this, and was the commander of the Chippewas, Ottawas, Wyandots, Miamis, Shawanese, Delawares and Mingoes, who had, for the time, laid aside their local quarrels to unite in this enterprise.

The blow came, as near as can now be ascertained, on May 7, 1763. Nine British posts fell, and the Indians drank, "scooped up in the hollow of joined hands," the blood of many a Briton.

Pontiac's immediate field of action was the garrison at Detroit. Here, however, the plans were frustrated by an Indian woman disclosing the plot the evening previous to his arrival. Everything was carried out, however, according to Pontiac's plans until the moment of action, when Major Gladwyn, the commander of the post, stepping to one of the Indian chiefs, suddenly drew aside his blanket and disclosed the concealed musket. Pontiac, though a brave man, turned pale and trembled. He saw his plan was known, and that the garrison were prepared. He endeavored to exculpate himself from any such intentions; but the guilt was evident, and he and his followers were dismissed with a severe reprimand, and warned never to again enter the walls of the post.

Pontiac at once laid siege to the fort, and until the treaty of peace between the British and the Western Indians, concluded in August, 1764, continued to harass and besiege the fortress. He organized a regular commissariat department, issued bills of credit written out on bark, which, to his credit, it may be stated, were punctually redeemed. At the conclusion of the treaty, in which it seems he took no part, he went further south, living many years among the Illinois.

He had given up all hope of saving his country and race. After a time he endeavored to unite the Illinois tribe and those about St. Louis in a war with the whites. His efforts were fruitless, and only ended in a quarrel between himself and some Kaskaskia Indians, one of whom soon afterwards killed him. His death was, however, avenged by the northern Indians, who nearly exterminated the Illinois in the wars which followed.

Had it not been for the treachery of a few of his followers, his plan for the extermination of the whites, a masterly one, would undoubtedly have been carried out.

It was in the Spring of the year following Rogers' visit that Alexander Henry went to Missillimacnac, and everywhere found the strongest feelings against the English, who had not carried out their promises, and were doing nothing to conciliate the natives. Here he met the chief, Pontiac, who, after conveying to him in a speech the idea that their French father would awake soon and utterly destroy his enemies, said: "Englishman, although you have conquered the French, you have not

yet conquered us! We are not your slaves! These lakes, these woods, these mountains, were left us by our ancestors. They are our inheritance, and we will part with them to none. Your nation supposes that we, like the white people, can not live without bread and pork and beef. But you ought to know that He, the Great Spirit and Master of Life, has provided food for us upon these broad lakes and in these mountains."

He then spoke of the fact that no treaty had been made with them, no presents sent them, and that he and his people were yet for war. Such were the feelings of the Northwestern Indians immediately after the English took possession of their country. These feelings were no doubt encouraged by the Canadians and French, who hoped that yet the French arms might prevail. The treaty of Paris, however, gave to the English the right to this vast domain, and active preparations were going on to occupy it and enjoy its trade and emoluments.

In 1762, France, by a secret treaty, ceded Louisiana to Spain, to prevent it falling into the hands of the English, who were becoming masters of the entire West. The next year the treaty of Paris, signed at Fontainbleau, gave to the English the domain of the country in question. Twenty years after, by the treaty of peace between the United States and England, that part of Canada lying south and west of the Great Lakes, comprehending a large territory which is the subject of these sketches, was acknowledged to be a portion of the United States; and twenty years still later, in 1803, Louisiana was ceded by Spain back to France, and by France sold to the United States.

In the half century, from the building of the Fort of Crevecœur by LaSalle, in 1680, up to the erection of Fort Chartres, many French settlements had been made in that quarter. These have already been noticed, being those at St. Vincent (Vincennes), Kohokia or Cahokia, Kaskaskia and Prairie du Rocher, on the American Bottom, a large tract of rich alluvial soil in Illinois, on the Mississippi, opposite the site of St. Louis.

By the treaty of Paris, the regions east of the Mississippi, including all these and other towns of the Northwest, were given over to England; but they do not appear to have been taken possession of until 1765, when Captain Stirling, in the name of the Majesty of England, established himself at Fort Chartres bearing with him the proclamation of General Gage, dated December 30, 1764, which promised religious freedom to all Catholics who worshiped here, and a right to leave the country with their effects if they wished, or to remain with the privileges of Englishmen. It was shortly after the occupancy of the West by the British that the war with Pontiac opened. It is already noticed in the sketch of that chieftain. By it many a Briton lost his life, and many a frontier settle-

ment in its infancy ceased to exist. This was not ended until the year 1764, when, failing to capture Detroit, Niagara and Fort Pitt, his confederacy became disheartened, and, receiving no aid from the French, Pontiac abandoned the enterprise and departed to the Illinois, among whom he afterward lost his life.

As soon as these difficulties were definitely settled, settlers began rapidly to survey the country and prepare for occupation. During the year 1770, a number of persons from Virginia and other British provinces explored and marked out nearly all the valuable lands on the Monongahela and along the banks of the Ohio as far as the Little Kanawha. This was followed by another exploring expedition, in which George Washington was a party. The latter, accompanied by Dr. Craik, Capt. Crawford and others, on the 20th of October, 1770, descended the Ohio from Pittsburgh to the mouth of the Kanawha; ascended that stream about fourteen miles, marked out several large tracts of land, shot several buffalo, which were then abundant in the Ohio Valley, and returned to the fort.

Pittsburgh was at this time a trading post, about which was clustered a village of some twenty houses, inhabited by Indian traders. This same year, Capt. Pittman visited Kaskaskia and its neighboring villages. He found there about sixty-five resident families, and at Cahokia only forty-five dwellings. At Fort Chartres was another small settlement, and at Detroit the garrison were quite prosperous and strong. For a year or two settlers continued to locate near some of these posts, generally Fort Pitt or Detroit, owing to the fears of the Indians, who still maintained some feelings of hatred to the English. The trade from the posts was quite good, and from those in Illinois large quantities of pork and flour found their way to the New Orleans market. At this time the policy of the British Government was strongly opposed to the extension of the colonies west. In 1763, the King of England forbade, by royal proclamation, his colonial subjects from making a settlement beyond the sources of the rivers which fall into the Atlantic Ocean. At the instance of the Board of Trade, measures were taken to prevent the settlement without the limits prescribed, and to retain the commerce within easy reach of Great Britain.

The commander-in-chief of the king's forces wrote in 1769: "In the course of a few years necessity will compel the colonists, should they extend their settlements west, to provide manufactures of some kind for themselves, and when all connection upheld by commerce with the mother country ceases, an *independency* in their government will soon follow."

In accordance with this policy, Gov. Gage issued a proclamation in 1772, commanding the inhabitants of Vincennes to abandon their settlements and join some of the Eastern English colonies. To this they

strenuously objected, giving good reasons therefor, and were allowed to remain. The strong opposition to this policy of Great Britain led to its change, and to such a course as to gain the attachment of the French population. In December, 1773, influential citizens of Quebec petitioned the king for an extension of the boundary lines of that province, which was granted, and Parliament passed an act on June 2, 1774, extending the boundary so as to include the territory lying within the present States of Ohio, Indiana, Illinois and Michigan.

In consequence of the liberal policy pursued by the British Government toward the French settlers in the West, they were disposed to favor that nation in the war which soon followed with the colonies; but the early alliance between France and America soon brought them to the side of the war for independence.

In 1774, Gov. Dunmore, of Virginia, began to encourage emigration to the Western lands. He appointed magistrates at Fort Pitt under the pretense that the fort was under the government of that commonwealth. One of these justices, John Connelly, who possessed a tract of land in the Ohio Valley, gathered a force of men and garrisoned the fort, calling it Fort Dunmore. This and other parties were formed to select sites for settlements, and often came in conflict with the Indians, who yet claimed portions of the valley, and several battles followed. These ended in the famous battle of Kanawha in July, where the Indians were defeated and driven across the Ohio.

During the years 1775 and 1776, by the operations of land companies and the perseverance of individuals, several settlements were firmly established between the Alleghanies and the Ohio River, and western land speculators were busy in Illinois and on the Wabash. At a council held in Kaskaskia on July 5, 1773, an association of English traders, calling themselves the "Illinois Land Company," obtained from ten chiefs of the Kaskaskia, Cahokia and Peoria tribes two large tracts of land lying on the east side of the Mississippi River south of the Illinois. In 1775, a merchant from the Illinois Country, named Viviat, came to Post Vincennes as the agent of the association called the "Wabash Land Company." On the 8th of October he obtained from eleven Piankeshaw chiefs, a deed for 37,497,600 acres of land. This deed was signed by the grantors, attested by a number of the inhabitants of Vincennes, and afterward recorded in the office of a notary public at Kaskaskia. This and other land companies had extensive schemes for the colonization of the West; but all were frustrated by the breaking out of the Revolution. On the 20th of April, 1780, the two companies named consolidated under the name of the "United Illinois and Wabash Land Company." They afterward made

strenuous efforts to have these grants sanctioned by Congress, but all signally failed.

When the War of the Revolution commenced, Kentucky was an unorganized country, though there were several settlements within her borders.

In Hutchins' Topography of Virginia, it is stated that at that time "Kaskaskia contained 80 houses, and nearly 1,000 white and black inhabitants — the whites being a little the more numerous. Cahokia contains 50 houses and 300 white inhabitants, and 80 negroes. There were east of the Mississippi River, about the year 1771 "—when these observations were made — "300 white men capable of bearing arms, and 230 negroes."

From 1775 until the expedition of Clark, nothing is recorded and nothing known of these settlements, save what is contained in a report made by a committee to Congress in June, 1778. From it the following extract is made:

"Near the mouth of the River Kaskaskia, there is a village which appears to have contained nearly eighty families from the beginning of the late revolution. There are twelve families in a small village at la Prairie du Rochers, and near fifty families at the Kahokia Village. There are also four or five families at Fort Chartres and St. Philips, which is five miles further up the river."

St. Louis had been settled in February, 1764, and at this time contained, including its neighboring towns, over six hundred whites and one hundred and fifty negroes. It must be remembered that all the country west of the Mississippi was now under French rule, and remained so until ceded again to Spain, its original owner, who afterwards sold it and the country including New Orleans to the United States. At Detroit there were, according to Capt. Carver, who was in the Northwest from 1766 to 1768, more than one hundred houses, and the river was settled for more than twenty miles, although poorly cultivated—the people being engaged in the Indian trade. This old town has a history, which we will here relate.

It is the oldest town in the Northwest, having been founded by Antoine de Lamotte Cadillac, in 1701. It was laid out in the form of an oblong square, of two acres in length, and an acre and a half in width. As described by A. D. Frazer, who first visited it and became a permanent resident of the place, in 1778, it comprised within its limits that space between Mr. Palmer's store (Conant Block) and Capt. Perkins' house (near the Arsenal building), and extended back as far as the public barn, and was bordered in front by the Detroit River. It was surrounded by oak and cedar pickets, about fifteen feet long, set in the ground, and had four gates — east, west, north and south. Over the first three of these

gates were block houses provided with four guns apiece, each a six-pounder. Two six-gun batteries were planted fronting the river and in a parallel direction with the block houses. There were four streets running east and west, the main street being twenty feet wide and the rest fifteen feet, while the four streets crossing these at right angles were from ten to fifteen feet in width.

At the date spoken of by Mr. Frazer, there was no fort within the enclosure, but a citadel on the ground corresponding to the present northwest corner of Jefferson Avenue and Wayne Street. The citadel was inclosed by pickets, and within it were erected barracks of wood, two stories high, sufficient to contain ten officers, and also barracks sufficient to contain four hundred men, and a provision store built of brick. The citadel also contained a hospital and guard-house. The old town of Detroit, in 1778, contained about sixty houses, most of them one story, with a few a story and a half in height. They were all of logs, some hewn and some round. There was one building of splendid appearance, called the "King's Palace," two stories high, which stood near the east gate. It was built for Governor Hamilton, the first governor commissioned by the British. There were two guard-houses, one near the west gate and the other near the Government House. Each of the guards consisted of twenty-four men and a subaltern, who mounted regularly every morning between nine and ten o'clock, Each furnished four sentinels, who were relieved every two hours. There was also an officer of the day, who performed strict duty. Each of the gates was shut regularly at sunset, even wicket gates were shut at nine o'clock, and all the keys were delivered into the hands of the commanding officer. They were opened in the morning at sunrise. No Indian or squaw was permitted to enter town with any weapon, such as a tomahawk or a knife. It was a standing order that the Indians should deliver their arms and instruments of every kind before they were permitted to pass the sentinel, and they were restored to them on their return. No more than twenty-five Indians were allowed to enter the town at any one time, and they were admitted only at the east and west gates. At sundown the drums beat, and all the Indians were required to leave town instantly. There was a council house near the water side for the purpose of holding council with the Indians. The population of the town was about sixty families, in all about two hundred males and one hundred females. This town was destroyed by fire, all except one dwelling, in 1805. After which the present "new" town was laid out.

On the breaking out of the Revolution, the British held every post of importance in the West. Kentucky was formed as a component part of Virginia, and the sturdy pioneers of the West, alive to their interests,

and recognizing the great benefits of obtaining the control of the trade in this part of the New World, held steadily to their purposes, and those within the commonwealth of Kentucky proceeded to exercise their civil privileges, by electing John Todd and Richard Gallaway, burgesses to represent them in the Assembly of the parent state. Early in September of that year (1777) the first court was held in Harrodsburg, and Col. Bowman, afterwards major, who had arrived in August, was made the commander of a militia organization which had been commenced the March previous. Thus the tree of loyalty was growing. The chief spirit in this far-out colony, who had represented her the year previous east of the mountains, was now meditating a move unequaled in its boldness. He had been watching the movements of the British throughout the Northwest, and understood their whole plan. He saw it was through their possession of the posts at Detroit, Vincennes, Kaskaskia, and other places, which would give them constant and easy access to the various Indian tribes in the Northwest, that the British intended to penetrate the country from the north and south, and annihilate the frontier fortresses. This moving, energetic man was Colonel, afterwards General, George Rogers Clark. He knew the Indians were not unanimously in accord with the English, and he was convinced that, could the British be defeated and expelled from the Northwest, the natives might be easily awed into neutrality; and by spies sent for the purpose, he satisfied himself that the enterprise against the Illinois settlements might easily succeed. Having convinced himself of the certainty of the project, he repaired to the Capital of Virginia, which place he reached on November 5th. While he was on his way, fortunately, on October 17th, Burgoyne had been defeated, and the spirits of the colonists greatly encouraged thereby. Patrick Henry was Governor of Virginia, and at once entered heartily into Clark's plans. The same plan had before been agitated in the Colonial Assemblies, but there was no one until Clark came who was sufficiently acquainted with the condition of affairs at the scene of action to be able to guide them.

Clark, having satisfied the Virginia leaders of the feasibility of his plan, received, on the 2d of January, two sets of instructions—one secret, the other open—the latter authorized him to proceed to enlist seven companies to go to Kentucky, subject to his orders, and to serve three months from their arrival in the West. The secret order authorized him to arm these troops, to procure his powder and lead of General Hand at Pittsburgh, and to proceed at once to subjugate the country.

With these instructions Clark repaired to Pittsburgh, choosing rather to raise his men west of the mountains, as he well knew all were needed in the colonies in the conflict there. He sent Col. W. B. Smith to Hol-

ston for the same purpose, but neither succeeded in raising the required number of men. The settlers in these parts were afraid to leave their own firesides exposed to a vigilant foe, and but few could be induced to join the proposed expedition. With three companies and several private volunteers, Clark at length commenced his descent of the Ohio, which he navigated as far as the Falls, where he took possession of and fortified Corn Island, a small island between the present Cities of Louisville, Kentucky, and New Albany, Indiana. Remains of this fortification may yet be found. At this place he appointed Col. Bowman to meet him with such recruits as had reached Kentucky by the southern route, and as many as could be spared from the station. Here he announced to the men their real destination. Having completed his arrangements, and chosen his party, he left a small garrison upon the island, and on the 24th of June, during a total eclipse of the sun, which to them augured no good, and which fixes beyond dispute the date of starting, he with his chosen band, fell down the river. His plan was to go by water as far as Fort Massac or Massacre, and thence march direct to Kaskaskia. Here he intended to surprise the garrison, and after its capture go to Cahokia, then to Vincennes, and lastly to Detroit. Should he fail, he intended to march directly to the Mississippi River and cross it into the Spanish country. Before his start he received two good items of information: one that the alliance had been formed between France and the United States; and the other that the Indians throughout the Illinois country and the inhabitants, at the various frontier posts, had been led to believe by the British that the "Long Knives" or Virginians, were the most fierce, bloodthirsty and cruel savages that ever scalped a foe. With this impression on their minds, Clark saw that proper management would cause them to submit at once from fear, if surprised, and then from gratitude would become friendly if treated with unexpected leniency.

The march to Kaskaskia was accomplished through a hot July sun, and the town reached on the evening of July 4. He captured the fort near the village, and soon after the village itself by surprise, and without the loss of a single man or by killing any of the enemy. After sufficiently working upon the fears of the natives, Clark told them they were at perfect liberty to worship as they pleased, and to take whichever side of the great conflict they would, also he would protect them from any barbarity from British or Indian foe. This had the desired effect, and the inhabitants, so unexpectedly and so gratefully surprised by the unlooked for turn of affairs, at once swore allegiance to the American arms, and when Clark desired to go to Cahokia on the 6th of July, they accompanied him, and through their influence the inhabitants of the place surrendered, and gladly placed themselves under his protection. Thus

the two important posts in Illinois passed from the hands of the English into the possession of Virginia.

In the person of the priest at Kaskaskia, M. Gibault, Clark found a powerful ally and generous friend. Clark saw that, to retain possession of the Northwest and treat successfully with the Indians within its boundaries, he must establish a government for the colonies he had taken. St. Vincent, the next important post to Detroit, remained yet to be taken before the Mississippi Valley was conquered. M. Gibault told him that he would alone, by persuasion, lead Vincennes to throw off its connection with England. Clark gladly accepted his offer, and on the 14th of July, in company with a fellow-townsman, M. Gibault started on his mission of peace, and on the 1st of August returned with the cheerful intelligence that the post on the "Oubache" had taken the oath of allegiance to the Old Dominion. During this interval, Clark established his courts, placed garrisons at Kaskaskia and Cahokia, successfully re-enlisted his men, sent word to have a fort, which proved the germ of Louisville, erected at the Falls of the Ohio, and dispatched Mr. Rocheblave, who had been commander at Kaskaskia, as a prisoner of war to Richmond. In October the County of Illinois was established by the Legislature of Virginia, John Todd appointed Lieutenant Colonel and Civil Governor, and in November General Clark and his men received the thanks of the Old Dominion through their Legislature.

In a speech a few days afterward, Clark made known fully to the natives his plans, and at its close all came forward and swore allegiance to the Long Knives. While he was doing this Governor Hamilton, having made his various arrangements, had left Detroit and moved down the Wabash to Vincennes intending to operate from that point in reducing the Illinois posts, and then proceed on down to Kentucky and drive the rebels from the West. Gen. Clark had, on the return of M. Gibault, dispatched Captain Helm, of Fauquier County, Virginia, with an attendant named Henry, across the Illinois prairies to command the fort. Hamilton knew nothing of the capitulation of the post, and was greatly surprised on his arrival to be confronted by Capt. Helm, who, standing at the entrance of the fort by a loaded cannon ready to fire upon his assailants, demanded upon what terms Hamilton demanded possession of the fort. Being granted the rights of a prisoner of war, he surrendered to the British General, who could scarcely believe his eyes when he saw the force in the garrison.

Hamilton, not realizing the character of the men with whom he was contending, gave up his intended campaign for the Winter, sent his four hundred Indian warriors to prevent troops from coming down the Ohio,

and to annoy the Americans in all ways, and sat quietly down to pass the Winter. Information of all these proceedings having reached Clark, he saw that immediate and decisive action was necessary, and that unless he captured Hamilton, Hamilton would capture him. Clark received the news on the 29th of January, 1779, and on February 4th, having sufficiently garrisoned Kaskaskia and Cahokia, he sent down the Mississippi a "battoe," as Major Bowman writes it, in order to ascend the Ohio and Wabash, and operate with the land forces gathering for the fray.

On the next day, Clark, with his little force of one hundred and twenty men, set out for the post, and after incredible hard marching through much mud, the ground being thawed by the incessant spring rains, on the 22d reached the fort, and being joined by his "battoe," at once commenced the attack on the post. The aim of the American backwoodsman was unerring, and on the 24th the garrison surrendered to the intrepid boldness of Clark. The French were treated with great kindness, and gladly renewed their allegiance to Virginia. Hamilton was sent as a prisoner to Virginia, where he was kept in close confinement. During his command of the British frontier posts, he had offered prizes to the Indians for all the scalps of Americans they would bring to him, and had earned in consequence thereof the title "Hair-buyer General," by which he was ever afterward known.

Detroit was now without doubt within easy reach of the enterprising Virginian, could he but raise the necessary force. Governor Henry being apprised of this, promised him the needed reinforcement, and Clark concluded to wait until he could capture and sufficiently garrison the posts. Had Clark failed in this bold undertaking, and Hamilton succeeded in uniting the western Indians for the next Spring's campaign, the West would indeed have been swept from the Mississippi to the Allegheny Mountains, and the great blow struck, which had been contemplated from the commencement, by the British.

"But for this small army of dripping, but fearless Virginians, the union of all the tribes from Georgia to Maine against the colonies might have been effected, and the whole current of our history changed."

At this time some fears were entertained by the Colonial Governments that the Indians in the North and Northwest were inclining to the British, and under the instructions of Washington, now Commander-in-Chief of the Colonial army, and so bravely fighting for American independence, armed forces were sent against the Six Nations, and upon the Ohio frontier, Col. Bowman, acting under the same general's orders, marched against Indians within the present limits of that State. These expeditions were in the main successful, and the Indians were compelled to sue for peace.

During this same year (1779) the famous "Land Laws" of Virginia were passed. The passage of these laws was of more consequence to the pioneers of Kentucky and the Northwest than the gaining of a few Indian conflicts. These laws confirmed in main all grants made, and guaranteed to all actual settlers their rights and privileges. After providing for the settlers, the laws provided for selling the balance of the public lands at forty cents per acre. To carry the Land Laws into effect, the Legislature sent four Virginians westward to attend to the various claims, over many of which great confusion prevailed concerning their validity. These gentlemen opened their court on October 13, 1779, at St. Asaphs, and continued until April 26, 1780, when they adjourned, having decided three thousand claims. They were succeeded by the surveyor, who came in the person of Mr. George May, and assumed his duties on the 10th day of the month whose name he bore. With the opening of the next year (1780) the troubles concerning the navigation of the Mississippi commenced. The Spanish Government exacted such measures in relation to its trade as to cause the overtures made to the United States to be rejected. The American Government considered they had a right to navigate its channel. To enforce their claims, a fort was erected below the mouth of the Ohio on the Kentucky side of the river. The settlements in Kentucky were being rapidly filled by emigrants. It was during this year that the first seminary of learning was established in the West in this young and enterprising Commonwealth.

The settlers here did not look upon the building of this fort in a friendly manner, as it aroused the hostility of the Indians. Spain had been friendly to the Colonies during their struggle for independence, and though for a while this friendship appeared in danger from the refusal of the free navigation of the river, yet it was finally settled to the satisfaction of both nations.

The Winter of 1779–80 was one of the most unusually severe ones ever experienced in the West. The Indians always referred to it as the "Great Cold." Numbers of wild animals perished, and not a few pioneers lost their lives. The following Summer a party of Canadians and Indians attacked St. Louis, and attempted to take possession of it in consequence of the friendly disposition of Spain to the revolting colonies. They met with such a determined resistance on the part of the inhabitants, even the women taking part in the battle, that they were compelled to abandon the contest. They also made an attack on the settlements in Kentucky, but, becoming alarmed in some unaccountable manner, they fled the country in great haste.

About this time arose the question in the Colonial Congress concerning the western lands claimed by Virginia, New York, Massachusetts



Jos Chamberlin



and Connecticut. The agitation concerning this subject finally led New York, on the 19th of February, 1780, to pass a law giving to the delegates of that State in Congress the power to cede her western lands for the benefit of the United States. This law was laid before Congress during the next month, but no steps were taken concerning it until September 6th, when a resolution passed that body calling upon the States claiming western lands to release their claims in favor of the whole body. This basis formed the union, and was the first after all of those legislative measures which resulted in the creation of the States of Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Michigan, Wisconsin and Minnesota. In December of the same year, the plan of conquering Detroit again arose. The conquest might have easily been effected by Clark had the necessary aid been furnished him. Nothing decisive was done, yet the heads of the Government knew that the safety of the Northwest from British invasion lay in the capture and retention of that important post, the only unconquered one in the territory.

Before the close of the year, Kentucky was divided into the Counties of Lincoln, Fayette and Jefferson, and the act establishing the Town of Louisville was passed. This same year is also noted in the annals of American history as the year in which occurred Arnold's treason to the United States.

Virginia, in accordance with the resolution of Congress, on the 2d day of January, 1781, agreed to yield her western lands to the United States upon certain conditions, which Congress would not accede to, and the Act of Cession, on the part of the Old Dominion, failed, nor was anything farther done until 1783. During all that time the Colonies were busily engaged in the struggle with the mother country, and in consequence thereof but little heed was given to the western settlements. Upon the 4th of July, 1773, the first birth north of the Ohio River of American parentage occurred, being that of John L. Roth, son of John Roth, one of the Moravian missionaries, whose band of Christian Indians suffered in after years a horrible massacre by the hands of the frontier settlers, who had been exasperated by the murder of several of their neighbors, and in their rage committed, without regard to humanity, a deed which forever afterward cast a shade of shame upon their lives. For this and kindred outrages on the part of the whites, the Indians committed many deeds of cruelty which darken the years of 1771 and 1772 in the history of the Northwest.

During the year 1782 a number of battles among the Indians and frontiersmen occurred, and between the Moravian Indians and the Wyandots. In these, horrible acts of cruelty were practised on the captives, many of such dark deeds transpiring under the leadership of the notorious

frontier outlaw, Simon Girty, whose name, as well as those of his brothers, was a terror to women and children. These occurred chiefly in the Ohio valleys. Cotemporary with them were several engagements in Kentucky, in which the famous Daniel Boone engaged, and who, often by his skill and knowledge of Indian warfare, saved the outposts from cruel destruction. By the close of the year victory had perched upon the American banner, and on the 30th of November, provisional articles of peace had been arranged between the Commissioners of England and her unconquerable colonies. Cornwallis had been defeated on the 19th of October preceding, and the liberty of America was assured. On the 19th of April following, the anniversary of the battle of Lexington, peace was proclaimed to the army of the United States, and on the 3d of the next September, the definite treaty which ended our revolutionary struggle was concluded. By the terms of that treaty, the boundaries of the West were as follows: On the north the line was to extend along the center of the Great Lakes; from the western point of Lake Superior to Long Lake; thence to the Lake of the Woods; thence to the head of the Mississippi River; down its center to the 31st parallel of latitude, then on that line east to the head of the Appalachicola River; down its center to its junction with the Flint; thence straight to the head of St. Mary's River, and thence down along its center to the Atlantic Ocean.

Following the cessation of hostilities with England, several posts were still occupied by the British in the North and West. Among these was Detroit, still in the hands of the enemy. Numerous engagements with the Indians throughout Ohio and Indiana occurred, upon whose lands adventurous whites would settle ere the title had been acquired by the proper treaty.

To remedy this latter evil, Congress appointed commissioners to treat with the natives and purchase their lands, and prohibited the settlement of the territory until this could be done. Before the close of the year another attempt was made to capture Detroit, which was, however, not pushed, and Virginia, no longer feeling the interest in the Northwest she had formerly done, withdrew her troops, having on the 20th of December preceding authorized the whole of her possessions to be deeded to the United States. This was done on the 1st of March following, and the Northwest Territory passed from the control of the Old Dominion. To Gen. Clark and his soldiers, however, she gave a tract of one hundred and fifty thousand acres of land, to be situated any where north of the Ohio wherever they choose to locate them. They selected the region opposite the falls of the Ohio, where is now the dilapidated village of Clarksville, about midway between the cities of New Albany and Jeffersonville, Indiana.

While the frontier remained thus, and Gen. Haldimand at Detroit refused to evacuate, alleging that he had no orders from his King to do so, settlers were rapidly gathering about the inland forts. In the Spring of 1784, Pittsburgh was regularly laid out, and from the journal of Arthur Lee, who passed through the town soon after on his way to the Indian council at Fort McIntosh, we suppose it was not very prepossessing in appearance. He says:

"Pittsburgh is inhabited almost entirely by Scots and Irish, who live in paltry log houses, and are as dirty as if in the north of Ireland or even Scotland. There is a great deal of trade carried on, the goods being brought at the vast expense of forty-five shillings per pound from Philadelphia and Baltimore. They take in the shops flour, wheat, skins and money. There are in the town four attorneys, two doctors, and not a priest of any persuasion, nor church nor chapel."

Kentucky at this time contained thirty thousand inhabitants, and was beginning to discuss measures for a separation from Virginia. A land office was opened at Louisville, and measures were adopted to take defensive precaution against the Indians, who were yet, in some instances, incited to deeds of violence by the British. Before the close of this year, 1784, the military claimants of land began to occupy them, although no entries were recorded until 1787.

The Indian title to the Northwest was not yet extinguished. They held large tracts of land, and in order to prevent bloodshed Congress adopted means for treaties with the original owners and provided for the surveys of the lands gained thereby, as well as for those north of the Ohio, now in its possession.

On January 31, 1786, a treaty was made with the Wabash Indians. The treaty of Fort Stanwix had been made in 1784. That at Fort McIntosh in 1785, and through these much land was gained. The Wabash Indians, however, afterward refused to comply with the provisions of the treaty made with them, and in order to compel their adherence to its provisions, force was used.

During the year 1786, the free navigation of the Mississippi came up in Congress, and caused various discussions, which resulted in no definite action, only serving to excite speculation in regard to the western lands. Congress had promised bounties of land to the soldiers of the Revolution, but owing to the unsettled condition of affairs along the Mississippi respecting its navigation, and the trade of the Northwest, that body had, in 1783, declared its inability to fulfill these promises until a treaty could be concluded between the two Governments.

Before the close of the year 1786, however, it was able, through the treaties with the Indians, to allow some grants and the settlement

thereon, and on the 14th of September, Connecticut ceded to the General Government the tract of land known as the "Connecticut Reserve," and before the close of the following year a large tract of land north of the Ohio was sold to a company, who at once took measures to settle it.

By the provisions of this grant, the company were to pay the United States one dollar per acre, subject to a deduction of one-third for bad lands and other contingencies. They received 750,000 acres, bounded on the south by the Ohio, on the east by the seventh range of townships, on the west by the sixteenth range, and on the north by a line so drawn as to make the grant complete without the reservations. In addition to this, Congress afterward granted 100,000 acres to actual settlers, and 214,285 acres as army bounties under the resolutions of 1789 and 1790.

While Dr. Cutler, one of the agents of the company, was pressing its claims before Congress, that body was bringing into form an ordinance for the political and social organization of this Territory. When the cession was made by Virginia, in 1784, a plan was offered, but rejected. A motion had been made to strike from the proposed plan the prohibition of slavery, which prevailed. The plan was then discussed and altered, and finally passed unanimously, with the exception of South Carolina. By this proposition, the Territory was to have been divided into states by parallels and meridian lines. This, it was thought, would make ten states, which were to have been named as follows — beginning at the northwest corner and going southwardly: Sylvania, Michigania, Chersonesus, Assenisipia, Metropotamia, Illenoia, Saratoga, Washington, Polypotamia and Pelisipia.

There was a more serious objection to this plan than its category of names,— the boundaries. The root of the difficulty was in the resolution of Congress passed in October, 1780, which fixed the boundaries of the ceded lands to be from one hundred to one hundred and fifty miles square. These resolutions being presented to the Legislatures of Virginia and Massachusetts, they desired a change, and in July, 1786, the subject was taken up in Congress, and changed to favor a division into not more than five states, and not less than three. This was approved by the State Legislature of Virginia.

The subject of the Government was again taken up by Congress in 1786, and discussed throughout that year and until July, 1787, when the famous "Compact of 1787" was passed, and the foundation of the government of the Northwest laid. This compact is fully discussed and explained in the history of Ohio in this book, and to it the reader is referred.

The passage of this act and the grant to the New England Company was soon followed by an application to the Government by John Cleves Symmes, of New Jersey, for a grant of the land between the Miamis. This gentleman had visited these lands soon after the treaty of 1786, and, being greatly pleased with them, offered similar terms to those given to the New England Company. The petition was referred to the Treasury Board with power to act, and a contract was concluded the following year.

During the Autumn the directors of the New England Company were preparing to occupy their grant the following Spring, and upon the 23d of November made arrangements for a party of forty-seven men, under the superintendency of Gen. Rufus Putnam, to set forward. Six boat-builders were to leave at once, and on the first of January the surveyors and their assistants, twenty-six in number, were to meet at Hartford and proceed on their journey westward; the remainder to follow as soon as possible. Congress, in the meantime, upon the 3d of October, had ordered seven hundred troops for defense of the western settlers, and to prevent unauthorized intrusions; and two days later appointed Arthur St. Clair Governor of the Territory of the Northwest.

AMERICAN SETTLEMENTS.

The civil organization of the Northwest Territory was now complete, and notwithstanding the uncertainty of Indian affairs, settlers from the East began to come into the country rapidly. The New England Company sent their men during the Winter of 1787–8 pressing on over the Alleghenies by the old Indian path which had been opened into Braddock's road, and which has since been made a national turnpike from Cumberland westward. Through the weary winter days they toiled on, and by April were all gathered on the Youghiogheny, where boats had been built, and at once started for the Muskingum. Here they arrived on the 7th of that month, and unless the Moravian missionaries be regarded as the pioneers of Ohio, this little band can justly claim that honor.

Gen. St. Clair, the appointed Governor of the Northwest, not having yet arrived, a set of laws were passed, written out, and published by being nailed to a tree in the embryo town, and Jonathan Meigs appointed to administer them.

Washington in writing of this, the first American settlement in the Northwest, said: "No colony in America was ever settled under such favorable auspices as that which has just commenced at Muskingum. Information, property and strength will be its characteristics. I know

many of its settlers personally, and there never were men better calculated to promote the welfare of such a community."

On the 2d of July a meeting of the directors and agents was held on the banks of the Muskingum, "for the purpose of naming the new-born city and its squares." As yet the settlement was known as the "Muskingum," but that was now changed to the name Marietta, in honor of Marie Antoinette, The square upon which the block-houses stood was called "*Campus Martius;*" square number 19, "*Capitolium;*" square number 61, "*Cecilia;*" and the great road through the covert way, "*Sacra Via.*" Two days after, an oration was delivered by James M. Varnum, who with S. H. Parsons and John Armstrong had been appointed to the judicial bench of the territory on the 16th of October, 1787. On July 9, Gov. St. Clair arrived, and the colony began to assume form. The act of 1787 provided two district grades of government for the Northwest, under the first of which the whole power was invested in the hands of a governor and three district judges. This was immediately formed upon the Governor's arrival, and the first laws of the colony passed on the 25th of July. These provided for the organization of the militia, and on the next day appeared the Governor's proclamation, erecting all that country that had been ceded by the Indians east of the Scioto River into the County of Washington. From that time forward, notwithstanding the doubts yet existing as to the Indians, all Marietta prospered, and on the 2d of September the first court of the territory was held with imposing ceremonies.

The emigration westward at this time was very great. The commander at Fort Harmer, at the mouth of the Muskingum, reported four thousand five hundred persons as having passed that post between February and June, 1788—many of whom would have purchased of the "Associates," as the New England Company was called, had they been ready to receive them.

On the 26th of November, 1787, Symmes issued a pamphlet stating the terms of his contract and the plan of sale he intended to adopt. In January, 1788, Matthias Denman, of New Jersey, took an active interest in Symmes' purchase, and located among other tracts the sections upon which Cincinnati has been built. Retaining one-third of this locality, he sold the other two-thirds to Robert Patterson and John Filson, and the three, about August, commenced to lay out a town on the spot, which was designated as being opposite Licking River, to the mouth of which they proposed to have a road cut from Lexington. The naming of the town is thus narrated in the "Western Annals":—"Mr. Filson, who had been a schoolmaster, was appointed to name the town, and, in respect to its situation, and as if with a prophetic perception of the mixed race that

were to inhabit it in after days, he named it Losantiville, which, being interpreted, means: *ville*, the town; *anti*, against or opposite to; *os*, the mouth; *L.* of Licking."

Meanwhile, in July, Symmes got thirty persons and eight four-horse teams under way from the West. These reached Limestone (now Maysville) in September, where were several persons from Redstone. Here Mr. Symmes tried to found a settlement, but the great freshet of 1789 caused the "Point," as it was and is yet called, to be fifteen feet under water, and the settlement to be abandoned. The little band of settlers removed to the mouth of the Miami. Before Symmes and his colony left the "Point," two settlements had been made on his purchase. The first was by Mr. Stiltes, the original projector of the whole plan, who, with a colony of Redstone people, had located at the mouth of the Miami, whither Symmes went with his Maysville colony. Here a clearing had been made by the Indians owing to the great fertility of the soil. Mr. Stiltes with his colony came to this place on the 18th of November, 1788, with twenty-six persons, and, building a block-house, prepared to remain through the Winter. They named the settlement Columbia. Here they were kindly treated by the Indians, but suffered greatly from the flood of 1789.

On the 4th of March, 1789, the Constitution of the United States went into operation, and on April 30, George Washington was inaugurated President of the American people, and during the next Summer, an Indian war was commenced by the tribes north of the Ohio. The President at first used pacific means; but these failing, he sent General Harmer against the hostile tribes. He destroyed several villages, but was defeated in two battles, near the present City of Fort Wayne, Indiana. From this time till the close of 1795, the principal events were the wars with the various Indian tribes. In 1796, General St. Clair was appointed in command, and marched against the Indians; but while he was encamped on a stream, the St. Mary, a branch of the Maumee, he was attacked and defeated with the loss of six hundred men.

General Wayne was now sent against the savages. In August, 1794, he met them near the rapids of the Maumee, and gained a complete victory. This success, followed by vigorous measures, compelled the Indians to sue for peace, and on the 30th of July, the following year, the treaty of Greenville was signed by the principal chiefs, by which a large tract of country was ceded to the United States.

Before proceeding in our narrative, we will pause to notice Fort Washington, erected in the early part of this war on the site of Cincinnati. Nearly all of the great cities of the Northwest, and indeed of the

whole country, have had their *nuclei* in those rude pioneer structures, known as forts or stockades. Thus Forts Dearborn, Washington, Ponchartrain, mark the original sites of the now proud Cities of Chicago, Cincinnati and Detroit. So of most of the flourishing cities east and west of the Mississippi. Fort Washington, erected by Doughty in 1790, was a rude but highly interesting structure. It was composed of a number of strongly-built hewed log cabins. Those designed for soldiers' barracks were a story and a half high, while those composing the officers quarters were more imposing and more conveniently arranged and furnished. The whole were so placed as to form a hollow square, enclosing about an acre of ground, with a block house at each of the four angles.

The logs for the construction of this fort were cut from the ground upon which it was erected. It stood between Third and Fourth Streets of the present city (Cincinnati) extending east of Eastern Row, now Broadway, which was then a narrow alley, and the eastern boundary of of the town as it was originally laid out. On the bank of the river, immediately in front of the fort, was an appendage of the fort, called the Artificer's Yard. It contained about two acres of ground, enclosed by small contiguous buildings, occupied by workshops and quarters of laborers. Within this enclosure there was a large two-story frame house, familiarly called the "Yellow House," built for the accommodation of the Quartermaster General. For many years this was the best finished and most commodious edifice in the Queen City. Fort Washington was for some time the headquarters of both the civil and military governments of the Northwestern Territory.

Following the consummation of the treaty various gigantic land speculations were entered into by different persons, who hoped to obtain from the Indians in Michigan and northern Indiana, large tracts of lands. These were generally discovered in time to prevent the outrageous schemes from being carried out, and from involving the settlers in war. On October 27, 1795, the treaty between the United States and Spain was signed, whereby the free navigation of the Mississippi was secured.

No sooner had the treaty of 1795 been ratified than settlements began to pour rapidly into the West. The great event of the year 1796 was the occupation of that part of the Northwest including Michigan, which was this year, under the provisions of the treaty, evacuated by the British forces. The United States, owing to certain conditions, did not feel justified in addressing the authorities in Canada in relation to Detroit and other frontier posts. When at last the British authorities were called to give them up, they at once complied, and General Wayne, who had done so much to preserve the frontier settlements, and who, before the year's close, sickened and died near Erie, transferred his head-

quarters to the neighborhood of the lakes, where a county named after him was formed, which included the northwest of Ohio, all of Michigan, and the northeast of Indiana. During this same year settlements were formed at the present City of Chillicothe, along the Miami from Middletown to Piqua, while in the more distant West, settlers and speculators began to appear in great numbers. In September, the City of Cleveland was laid out, and during the Summer and Autumn, Samuel Jackson and Jonathan Sharpless erected the first manufactory of paper—the "Redstone Paper Mill"—in the West. St. Louis contained some seventy houses, and Detroit over three hundred, and along the river, contiguous to it, were more than three thousand inhabitants, mostly French Canadians, Indians and half-breeds, scarcely any Americans venturing yet into that part of the Northwest.

The election of representatives for the territory had taken place, and on the 4th of February, 1799, they convened at Losantiville—now known as Cincinnati, having been named so by Gov. St. Clair, and considered the capital of the Territory—to nominate persons from whom the members of the Legislature were to be chosen in accordance with a previous ordinance. This nomination being made, the Assembly adjourned until the 16th of the following September. From those named the President selected as members of the council, Henry Vandenburg, of Vincennes, Robert Oliver, of Marietta, James Findlay and Jacob Burnett, of Cincinnati, and David Vance, of Vanceville. On the 16th of September the Territorial Legislature met, and on the 24th the two houses were duly organized, Henry Vandenburg being elected President of the Council.

The message of Gov. St. Clair was addressed to the Legislature September 20th, and on October 13th that body elected as a delegate to Congress Gen. Wm. Henry Harrison, who received eleven of the votes cast, being a majority of one over his opponent, Arthur St. Clair, son of Gen. St. Clair.

The whole number of acts passed at this session, and approved by the Governor, were thirty-seven—eleven others were passed, but received his veto. The most important of those passed related to the militia, to the administration, and to taxation. On the 19th of December this protracted session of the first Legislature in the West was closed, and on the 30th of December the President nominated Charles Willing Bryd to the office of Secretary of the Territory *vice* Wm. Henry Harrison, elected to Congress. The Senate confirmed his nomination the next day.

DIVISION OF THE NORTHWEST TERRITORY.

The increased emigration to the Northwest, the extent of the domain, and the inconvenient modes of travel, made it very difficult to conduct the ordinary operations of government, and rendered the efficient action of courts almost impossible. To remedy this, it was deemed advisable to divide the territory for civil purposes. Congress, in 1800, appointed a committee to examine the question and report some means for its solution. This committee, on the 3d of March, reported that:

"In the three western countries there has been but one court having cognizance of crimes, in five years, and the immunity which offenders experience attracts, as to an asylum, the most vile and abandoned criminals, and at the same time deters useful citizens from making settlements in such society. The extreme necessity of judiciary attention and assistance is experienced in civil as well as in criminal cases. * * * * To minister a remedy to these and other evils, it occurs to this committee that it is expedient that a division of said territory into two distinct and separate governments should be made; and that such division be made by a line beginning at the mouth of the Great Miami River, running directly north until it intersects the boundary between the United States and Canada."

The report was accepted by Congress, and, in accordance with its suggestions, that body passed an Act extinguishing the Northwest Territory, which Act was approved May 7. Among its provisions were these:

"That from and after July 4 next, all that part of the Territory of the United States northwest of the Ohio River, which lies to the westward of a line beginning at a point on the Ohio, opposite to the mouth of the Kentucky River, and running thence to Fort Recovery, and thence north until it shall intersect the territorial line between the United States and Canada, shall, for the purpose of temporary government, constitute a separate territory, and be called the Indiana Territory."

After providing for the exercise of the civil and criminal powers of the territories, and other provisions, the Act further provides:

"That until it shall otherwise be ordered by the Legislatures of the said Territories, respectively, Chillicothe on the Scioto River shall be the seat of government of the Territory of the United States northwest of the Ohio River; and that St. Vincennes on the Wabash River shall be the seat of government for the Indiana Territory."

Gen. Wm. Henry Harrison was appointed Governor of the Indiana Territory, and entered upon his duties about a year later. Connecticut also about this time released her claims to the reserve, and in March a law

was passed accepting this cession. Settlements had been made upon thirty-five of the townships in the reserve, mills had been built, and seven hundred miles of road cut in various directions. On the 3d of November the General Assembly met at Chillicothe. Near the close of the year, the first missionary of the Connecticut Reserve came, who found no township containing more than eleven families. It was upon the first of October that the secret treaty had been made between Napoleon and the King of Spain, whereby the latter agreed to cede to France the province of Louisiana.

In January, 1802, the Assembly of the Northwestern Territory chartered the college at Athens. From the earliest dawn of the western colonies, education was promptly provided for, and as early as 1787, newspapers were issued from Pittsburgh and Kentucky, and largely read throughout the frontier settlements. Before the close of this year, the Congress of the United States granted to the citizens of the Northwestern territory the formation of a State government. One of the provisions of the "compact of 1787" provided that whenever the number of inhabitants within prescribed limits exceeded 45,000, they should be entitled to a separate government. The prescribed limits of Ohio contained, from a census taken to ascertain the legality of the act, more than that number, and on the 30th of April, 1802, Congress passed the act defining its limits, and on the 29th of November the Constitution of the new State of Ohio, so named from the beautiful river forming its southern boundary, came into existence. The exact limits of Lake Michigan were not then known, but the territory now included within the State of Michigan was wholly within the territory of Indiana.

Gen. Harrison, while residing at Vincennes, made several treaties with the Indians, thereby gaining large tracts of lands. The next year is memorable in the history of the West for the purchase of Louisiana from France by the United States for $15,000,000. Thus by a peaceful mode, the domain of the United States was extended over a large tract of country west of the Mississippi, and was for a time under the jurisdiction of the Northwest government, and, as has been mentioned in the early part of this narrative, was called the "New Northwest." The limits of this history will not allow a description of its territory. The same year large grants of land were obtained from the Indians, and the House of Representatives of the new State of Ohio signed a bill respecting the College Township in the district of Cincinnati.

Before the close of the year, Gen. Harrison obtained additional grants of lands from the various Indian nations in Indiana and the present limits of Illinois, and on the 18th of August, 1804, completed a treaty at St. Louis, whereby over 51,000,000 acres of lands were obtained from the

aborigines. Measures were also taken to learn the condition of affairs in and about Detroit.

C. Jouett, the Indian agent in Michigan, still a part of Indiana Territory, reported as follows upon the condition of matters at that post:

"The Town of Detroit.—The charter, which is for fifteen miles square, was granted in the time of Louis XIV. of France, and is now, from the best information I have been able to get, at Quebec. Of those two hundred and twenty-five acres, only four are occupied by the town and Fort Lenault. The remainder is a common, except twenty-four acres, which were added twenty years ago to a farm belonging to Wm. Macomb. * * * A stockade incloses the town, fort and citadel. The pickets, as well as the public houses, are in a state of gradual decay. The streets are narrow, straight and regular, and intersect each other at right angles. The houses are, for the most part, low and inelegant."

During this year, Congress granted a township of land for the support of a college, and began to offer inducements for settlers in these wilds, and the country now comprising the State of Michigan began to fill rapidly with settlers along its southern borders. This same year, also, a law was passed organizing the Southwest Territory, dividing it into two portions, the Territory of New Orleans, which city was made the seat of government, and the District of Louisiana, which was annexed to the domain of Gen. Harrison.

On the 11th of January, 1805, the Territory of Michigan was formed, Wm. Hull was appointed governor, with headquarters at Detroit, the change to take effect on June 30. On the 11th of that month, a fire occurred at Detroit, which destroyed almost every building in the place. When the officers of the new territory reached the post, they found it in ruins, and the inhabitants scattered throughout the country. Rebuilding, however, soon commenced, and ere long the town contained more houses than before the fire, and many of them much better built.

While this was being done, Indiana had passed to the second grade of government, and through her General Assembly had obtained large tracts of land from the Indian tribes. To all this the celebrated Indian, Tecumthe or Tecumseh, vigorously protested, and it was the main cause of his attempts to unite the various Indian tribes in a conflict with the settlers. To obtain a full account of these attempts, the workings of the British, and the signal failure, culminating in the death of Tecumseh at the battle of the Thames, and the close of the war of 1812 in the Northwest, we will step aside in our story, and relate the principal events of his life, and his connection with this conflict.

TECUMSEH, AND THE WAR OF 1812.

This famous Indian chief was born about the year 1768, not far from the site of the present city of Springfield, Ohio. His father, Puckeshinwa, was a member of the Kisopok tribe of the Swanoese nation, and his mother, Methontaske, was a member of the Turtle tribe of the same people. They removed from Florida about the middle of the last century to the birthplace of Tecumseh. In 1774, his father, who had risen to be chief, was slain at the battle of Point Pleasant, and not long after Tecumseh, by his bravery, became the leader of his tribe. In 1795 he was declared chief, and then lived at Deer Creek, near the site of the present City of Urbana. He remained here about one year, when he returned to Piqua, and in 1798, he went to White River, Indiana. In 1805, he and his brother, Laulewasikan (Open Door), who had announced himself as a prophet, went to a tract of land on the Wabash River, given them by the Pottawatomies and Kickapoos. From this date the chief comes into prominence. He was now about thirty-seven years of age, was five feet and ten inches in height, was stoutly built, and possessed of enormous powers of endurance. His countenance was naturally pleasing, and he was, in general, devoid of those savage attributes possessed by most Indians. It is stated he could read and write, and had a confidential secretary and adviser, named Billy Caldwell, a half-breed, who afterward became chief of the Pottawatomies. He occupied the first house built on the site of Chicago. At this time, Tecumseh entered upon the great work of his life. He had long objected to the grants of land made by the Indians to the whites, and determined to unite all the Indian tribes into a league, in order that no treaties or grants of land could be made save by the consent of this confederation.

He traveled constantly, going from north to south; from the south to the north, everywhere urging the Indians to this step. He was a matchless orator, and his burning words had their effect.

Gen. Harrison, then Governor of Indiana, by watching the movements of the Indians, became convinced that a grand conspiracy was forming, and made preparations to defend the settlements. Tecumseh's plan was similar to Pontiac's, elsewhere described, and to the cunning artifice of that chieftain was added his own sagacity.

During the year 1809, Tecumseh and the prophet were actively preparing for the work. In that year, Gen. Harrison entered into a treaty with the Delawares, Kickapoos, Pottawatomies, Miamis, Eel River Indians and Weas, in which these tribes ceded to the whites certain lands upon the Wabash, to all of which Tecumseh entered a bitter protest, averring

as one principal reason that he did not want the Indians to give up any lands north and west of the Ohio River.

Tecumseh, in August, 1810, visited the General at Vincennes and held a council relating to the grievances of the Indians. Becoming unduly angry at this conference he was dismissed from the village, and soon after departed to incite the southern Indian tribes to the conflict.

Gen. Harrison determined to move upon the chief's headquarters at Tippecanoe, and for this purpose went about sixty-five miles up the Wabash, where he built Fort Harrison. From this place he went to the Prophet's town, where he informed the Indians he had no hostile intentions, provided they were true to the existing treaties. He encamped near the village early in October, and on the morning of November 7, he was attacked by a large force of the Indians, and the famous battle of Tippecanoe occurred. The Indians were routed and their town broken up. Tecumseh returning not long after, was greatly exasperated at his brother, the Prophet, even threatening to kill him for rashly precipitating the war, and foiling his (Tecumseh's) plans.

Tecumseh sent word to Gen. Harrison that he was now returned from the South, and was ready to visit the President as had at one time previously been proposed. Gen. Harrison informed him he could not go as a chief, which method Tecumseh desired, and the visit was never made. In June of the following year, he visited the Indian agent at Fort Wayne. Here he disavowed any intention to make a war against the United States, and reproached Gen. Harrison for marching against his people. The agent replied to this; Tecumseh listened with a cold indifference, and after making a few general remarks, with a haughty air drew his blanket about him, left the council house, and departed for Fort Malden, in Upper Canada, where he joined the British standard.

In the Summer of 1813, Perry's victory on Lake Erie occurred, and shortly after active preparations were made to capture Malden. On the 27th of September, the American army, under Gen. Harrison, set sail for the shores of Canada, and in a few hours stood around the ruins of Malden, from which the British army, under Proctor, had retreated to Sandwich, intending to make its way to the heart of Canada by the Valley of the Thames. On the 29th Gen. Harrison was at Sandwich, and Gen. McArthur took possession of Detroit and the territory of Michigan.

The pursuit of Proctor began October 2. He was overtaken on the 5th at the Thames. Tecumseh fell * in that battle and British power was forever broken, Canada alone being left them, as the Americans had no orders to follow up their victory eastward. Burr's incipient insurrection of 1805 was quelled, and the murderer of the eloquent Hamilton driven from his beautiful island fortress in the Ohio River.

* Supposed at the hands of Col. R. M. Johnson of Kentucky.

In January, 1807, Governor Hull, of Michigan Territory, made a treaty with the Indians, whereby all that peninsula was ceded to the United States. Before the close of the year, a stockade was built about Detroit. It was also during this year that Indiana and Illinois endeavored to obtain the repeal of that section of the compact of 1787, whereby slavery was excluded from the Northwest Territory. These attempts, however, all signally failed.

In 1809 it was deemed advisable to divide the Indiana Territory. This was done, and the Territory of Illinois was formed from the western part, the seat of government being fixed at Kaskaskia. The next year, the intentions of Tecumseh manifested themselves in open hostilities, and then began the events already narrated.

While this war was in progress, emigration to the West went on with surprising rapidity. In 1811, under Mr. Roosevelt of New York, the first steamboat trip was made on the Ohio, much to the astonishment of the natives, many of whom fled in terror at the appearance of the "monster." It arrived at Louisville on the 10th day of October. At the close of the first week of January, 1812, it arrived at Natchez, after being nearly overwhelmed in the great earthquake which occurred while on its downward trip.

The battle of the Thames was fought on October 6, 1813. It effectually closed hostilities in the Northwest, although peace was not fully restored until July 22, 1814, when a treaty was formed at Greenville, under the direction of General Harrison, between the United States and the Indian tribes, in which it was stipulated that the Indians should cease hostilities against the Americans if the war were continued. Such, happily, was not the case, and on the 24th of December the treaty of Ghent was signed by the representatives of England and the United States. This treaty was followed the next year by treaties with various Indian tribes throughout the West and Northwest, and quiet was again restored in this part of the new world.

On the 18th of March, 1816, Pittsburgh was incorporated as a city. It then had a population of 8,000 people, and was already noted for its manufacturing interests. On April 19, Indiana Territory was allowed to form a state government. At that time there were thirteen counties organized, containing about sixty-three thousand inhabitants. The first election of state officers was held in August, when Jonathan Jennings was chosen Governor. The officers were sworn in on November 7, and on December 11, the State was formally admitted into the Union. For some time the seat of government was at Corydon, but a more central location being desirable, the present capital, Indianapolis (City of Indiana), was laid out January 1, 1825.

On the 28th of December the Bank of Illinois, at Shawneetown, was chartered, with a capital of $300,000. At this period all banks were under the control of the States, and were allowed to establish branches at different convenient points.

Until this time Chillicothe and Cincinnati had in turn enjoyed the privileges of being the capital of Ohio. But the rapid settlement of the northern and eastern portions of the State demanded, as in Indiana, a more central location, and before the close of the year, the site of Columbus was selected and surveyed as the future capital of the State. Banking had begun in Ohio as early as 1808, when the first bank was chartered at Marietta, but here as elsewhere it did not bring to the state the hoped-for assistance. It and other banks were subsequently unable to redeem their currency, and were obliged to suspend.

In 1818, Illinois was made a state, and all the territory north of her northern limits was erected into a separate territory and joined to Michigan for judicial purposes. By the following year, navigation of the lakes was increasing with great rapidity and affording an immense source of revenue to the dwellers in the Northwest, but it was not until 1826 that the trade was extended to Lake Michigan, or that steamships began to navigate the bosom of that inland sea.

Until the year 1832, the commencement of the Black Hawk War, but few hostilities were experienced with the Indians. Roads were opened, canals were dug, cities were built, common schools were established, universities were founded, many of which, especially the Michigan University, have achieved a world wide-reputation. The people were becoming wealthy. The domains of the United States had been extended, and had the sons of the forest been treated with honesty and justice, the record of many years would have been that of peace and continuous prosperity.

BLACK HAWK AND THE BLACK HAWK WAR.

This conflict, though confined to Illinois, is an important epoch in the Northwestern history, being the last war with the Indians in this part of the United States.

Ma-ka-tai-me-she-kia-kiah, or Black Hawk, was born in the principal Sac village, about three miles from the junction of Rock River with the Mississippi, in the year 1767. His father's name was Py-e-sa or Pahaes; his grandfather's, Na-na-ma-kee, or the Thunderer. Black Hawk early distinguished himself as a warrior, and at the age of fifteen was permitted to paint and was ranked among the braves. About the year 1783, he went on an expedition against the enemies of his nation, the Osages, one

of whom he killed and scalped, and for this deed of Indian bravery he was permitted to join in the scalp dance. Three or four years after he, at the head of two hundred braves, went on another expedition against the Osages, to avenge the murder of some women and children belonging to his own tribe. Meeting an equal number of Osage warriors, a fierce battle ensued, in which the latter tribe lost one-half their number. The Sacs lost only about nineteen warriors. He next attacked the Cherokees for a similar cause. In a severe battle with them, near the present City of St. Louis, his father was slain, and Black Hawk, taking possession of the "Medicine Bag," at once announced himself chief of the Sac nation. He had now conquered the Cherokees, and about the year 1800, at the head of five hundred Sacs and Foxes, and a hundred Iowas, he waged war against the Osage nation and subdued it. For two years he battled successfully with other Indian tribes, all of whom he conquered.

Black Hawk does not at any time seem to have been friendly to the Americans. When on a visit to St. Louis to see his "Spanish Father," he declined to see any of the Americans, alleging, as a reason, he did not want *two* fathers.

The treaty at St. Louis was consummated in 1804. The next year the United States Government erected a fort near the head of the Des Moines Rapids, called Fort Edwards. This seemed to enrage Black Hawk, who at once determined to capture Fort Madison, standing on the west side of the Mississippi above the mouth of the Des Moines River. The fort was garrisoned by about fifty men. Here he was defeated. The difficulties with the British Government arose about this time, and the War of 1812 followed. That government, extending aid to the Western Indians, by giving them arms and ammunition, induced them to remain hostile to the Americans. In August, 1812, Black Hawk, at the head of about five hundred braves, started to join the British forces at Detroit, passing on his way the site of Chicago, where the famous Fort Dearborn Massacre had a few days before occurred. Of his connection with the British Government but little is known. In 1813 he with his little band descended the Mississippi, and attacking some United States troops at Fort Howard was defeated.

In the early part of 1815, the Indian tribes west of the Mississippi were notified that peace had been declared between the United States and England, and nearly all hostilities had ceased. Black Hawk did not sign any treaty, however, until May of the following year. He then recognized the validity of the treaty at St. Louis in 1804. From the time of signing this treaty in 1816, until the breaking out of the war in 1832, he and his band passed their time in the common pursuits of Indian life.

Ten years before the commencement of this war, the Sac and Fox

Indians were urged to join the Iowas on the west bank of the Father of Waters. All were agreed, save the band known as the British Band, of which Black Hawk was leader. He strenuously objected to the removal, and was induced to comply only after being threatened with the power of the Government. This and various actions on the part of the white settlers provoked Black Hawk and his band to attempt the capture of his native village now occupied by the whites. The war followed. He and his actions were undoubtedly misunderstood, and had his wishes been acquiesced in at the beginning of the struggle, much bloodshed would have been prevented.

Black Hawk was chief now of the Sac and Fox nations, and a noted warrior. He and his tribe inhabited a village on Rock River, nearly three miles above its confluence with the Mississippi, where the tribe had lived many generations. When that portion of Illinois was reserved to them, they remained in peaceable possession of their reservation, spending their time in the enjoyment of Indian life. The fine situation of their village and the quality of their lands incited the more lawless white settlers, who from time to time began to encroach upon the red men's domain. From one pretext to another, and from one step to another, the crafty white men gained a foothold, until through whisky and artifice they obtained deeds from many of the Indians for their possessions. The Indians were finally induced to cross over the Father of Waters and locate among the Iowas. Black Hawk was strenuously opposed to all this, but as the authorities of Illinois and the United States thought this the best move, he was forced to comply. Moreover other tribes joined the whites and urged the removal. Black Hawk would not agree to the terms of the treaty made with his nation for their lands, and as soon as the military, called to enforce his removal, had retired, he returned to the Illinois side of the river. A large force was at once raised and marched against him. On the evening of May 14, 1832, the first engagement occurred between a band from this army and Black Hawk's band, in which the former were defeated.

This attack and its result aroused the whites. A large force of men was raised, and Gen. Scott hastened from the seaboard, by way of the lakes, with United States troops and artillery to aid in the subjugation of the Indians. On the 24th of June, Black Hawk, with 200 warriors, was repulsed by Major Demont between Rock River and Galena. The American army continued to move up Rock River toward the main body of the Indians, and on the 21st of July came upon Black Hawk and his band, and defeated them near the Blue Mounds.

Before this action, Gen. Henry, in command, sent word to the main army by whom he was immediately rejoined, and the whole crossed the

Wisconsin in pursuit of Black Hawk and his band who were fleeing to the Mississippi. They were overtaken on the 2d of August, and in the battle which followed the power of the Indian chief was completely broken. He fled, but was seized by the Winnebagoes and delivered to the whites.

On the 21st of September, 1832, Gen. Scott and Gov. Reynolds concluded a treaty with the Winnebagoes, Sacs and Foxes by which they ceded to the United States a vast tract of country, and agreed to remain peaceable with the whites. For the faithful performance of the provisions of this treaty on the part of the Indians, it was stipulated that Black Hawk, his two sons, the prophet Wabokieshiek, and six other chiefs of the hostile bands should be retained as hostages during the pleasure of the President. They were confined at Fort Barracks and put in irons.

The next Spring, by order of the Secretary of War, they were taken to Washington. From there they were removed to Fortress Monroe, "there to remain until the conduct of their nation was such as to justify their being set at liberty." They were retained here until the 4th of June, when the authorities directed them to be taken to the principal cities so that they might see the folly of contending against the white people. Everywhere they were observed by thousands, the name of the old chief being extensively known. By the middle of August they reached Fort Armstrong on Rock Island, where Black Hawk was soon after released to go to his countrymen. As he passed the site of his birthplace, now the home of the white man, he was deeply moved. His village where he was born, where he had so happily lived, and where he had hoped to die, was now another's dwelling place, and he was a wanderer.

On the next day after his release, he went at once to his tribe and his lodge. His wife was yet living, and with her he passed the remainder of his days. To his credit it may be said that Black Hawk always remained true to his wife, and served her with a devotion uncommon among the Indians, living with her upward of forty years.

Black Hawk now passed his time hunting and fishing. A deep melancholy had settled over him from which he could not be freed. At all times when he visited the whites he was received with marked attention. He was an honored guest at the old settlers' reunion in Lee County, Illinois, at some of their meetings, and received many tokens of esteem. In September, 1838, while on his way to Rock Island to receive his annuity from the Government, he contracted a severe cold which resulted in a fatal attack of bilious fever which terminated his life on October 3. His faithful wife, who was devotedly attached to him, mourned deeply during his sickness. After his death he was dressed in the uniform presented to him by the President while in Washington. He was buried in a grave six feet in depth, situated upon a beautiful eminence. "The

body was placed in the middle of the grave, in a sitting posture, upon a seat constructed for the purpose. On his left side, the cane, given him by Henry Clay, was placed upright, with his right hand resting upon it. Many of the old warrior's trophies were placed in the grave, and some Indian garments, together with his favorite weapons."

No sooner was the Black Hawk war concluded than settlers began rapidly to pour into the northern parts of Illinois, and into Wisconsin, now free from Indian depredations. Chicago, from a trading post, had grown to a commercial center, and was rapidly coming into prominence. In 1835, the formation of a State Government in Michigan was discussed, but did not take active form until two years later, when the State became a part of the Federal Union.

The main attraction to that portion of the Northwest lying west of Lake Michigan, now included in the State of Wisconsin, was its alluvial wealth. Copper ore was found about Lake Superior. For some time this region was attached to Michigan for judiciary purposes, but in 1836 was made a territory, then including Minnesota and Iowa. The latter State was detached two years later. In 1848, Wisconsin was admitted as a State, Madison being made the capital. We have now traced the various divisions of the Northwest Territory (save a little in Minnesota) from the time it was a unit comprising this vast territory, until circumstances compelled its present division.

POPULATION OF THE UNITED STATES.

STATES AND TERRITORIES.	AREA IN SQUARE MILES.	POPULATION. 1870.	POPULATION. 1880.	MIL'S R. R. 1882.
STATES.				
Alabama	50,722	996,992	1,262,505	1,802
Arkansas	52,198	484,471	802,525	1,041
California	188,981	560,247	864,694	2,266
Colorado			194,327	2,274
Connecticut	4,674	537,454	622,700	958
Delaware	2,120	125,015	146,608	278
Florida	59,268	187,748	269,493	793
Georgia	58,000	1,184,109	1,542,180	2,581
Illinois	55,410	2,539,891	3,077,871	8,325
Indiana	33,809	1,680,637	1,978,301	4,764
Iowa	55,045	1,191,792	1,624,615	6,112
Kansas	81,318	364,399	996,096	3,718
Kentucky	37,680	1,321,011	1,648,690	1,714
Louisiana	41,346	726,915	939,946	999
Maine	31,776	626,915	648,936	1,021
Maryland	11,184	780,894	934,943	1,047
Massachusetts	7,800	1,457,351	1,783,085	1,934
Michigan	56,451	1,184,059	1,636,937	4,283
Minnesota	83,531	439,706	780,773	3,390
Mississippi	47,156	827,922	1,131,597	1,231
Missouri	65,350	1,721,295	2,168,380	4,211
Nebraska	75,995	123,993	452,402	2,310
Nevada	112,090	42,491	62,266	890
New Hampshire	9,280	318,300	346,991	1,025
New Jersey	8,320	906,096	1,131,116	1,753
New York	47,000	4,382,759	5,082,871	6,278
North Carolina	50,704	1,071,361	1,399,750	1,619
Ohio	39,964	2,665,260	3,198,062	6,663
Oregon	95,244	90,923	174,768	689
Pennsylvania	46,000	3,521,791	4,282,891	6,690
Rhode Island	1,306	217,353	276,531	211
South Carolina	29,385	705,606	995,577	1,483
Tennessee	45,600	1,258,520	1,542,359	1,973
Texas	237,504	818,579	1,591,749	5,344
Vermont	10,212	330,551	332,286	915
Virginia	40,904	1,225,163	1,512,565	2,193
West Virginia	23,000	442,014	618,457	711
Wisconsin	53,924	1,054,670	1,315,497	3,441
Total States	1,950,171	38,113,253		
TERRITORIES.				
Arizona	113,916	9,658	40,440	557
Colorado	104,500	39,864		
Dakota	147,490	14,181	135,177	1,658
District of Columbia	60	131,700	177,624	
Idaho	90,932	14,999	32,610	265
Montana	143,776	20,595	39,159	231
New Mexico	121,201	91,874	119,565	975
Utah	80,056	86,786	143,963	908
Washington	69,944	23,955	75,116	479
Wyoming	93,107	9,118	20,789	533
Total Territories	965,032	442,730		
Aggregate of U. S.	2,915,203	38,555,983	50,155,783	
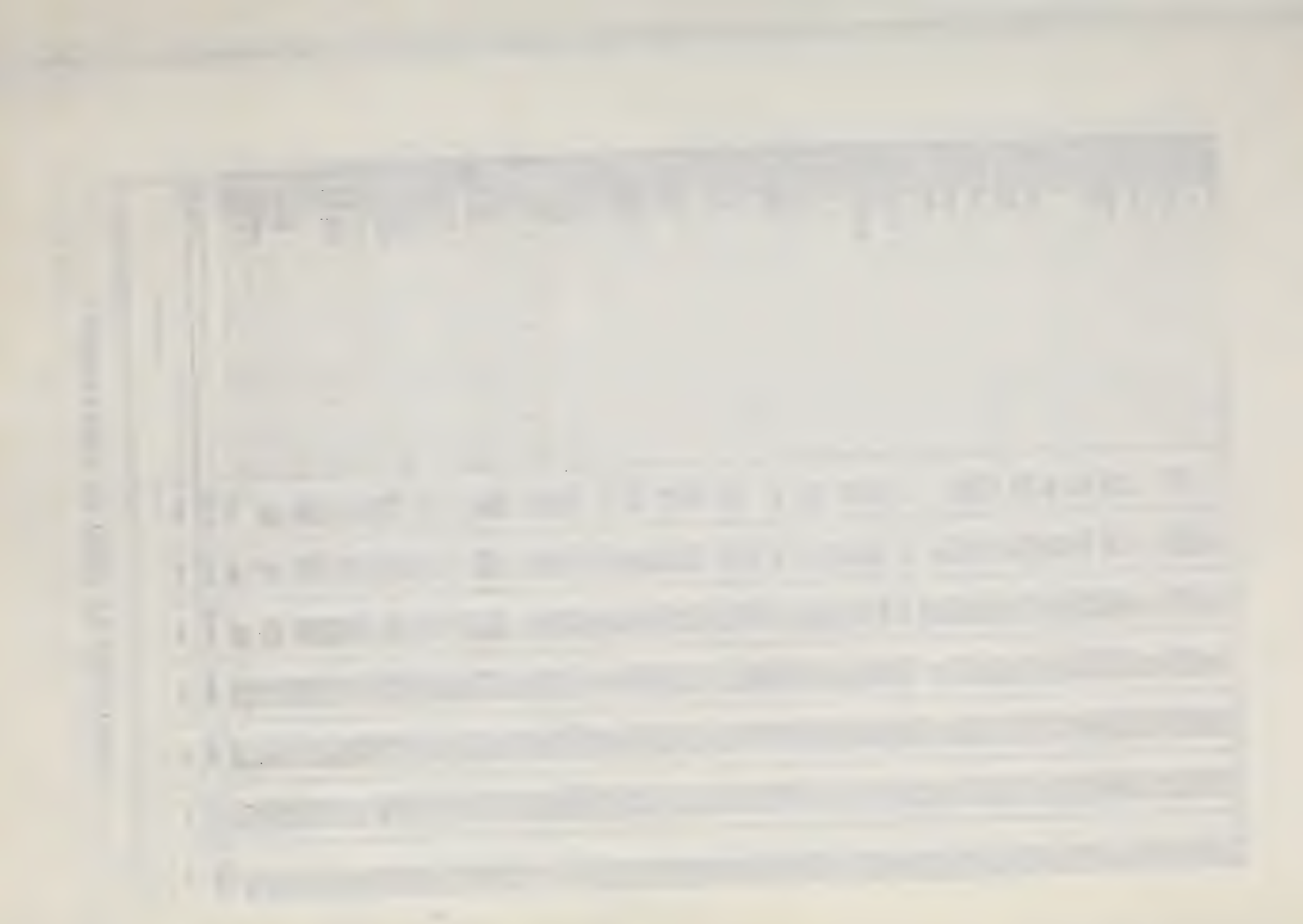
PRINCIPAL COUNTRIES OF THE WORLD.

POPULATION AND AREA.

COUNTRIES.	POPULATION	DATE OF CENSUS.	AREA OF SQUARE MILES.	CAPITALS.	POPULATION.
China	380,627,183	1881	4,413,788	Pekin	2,000,000
British India	254,899,516	1881	1,425,723	Calcutta	500,000
Russia	98,297,407	1879	8,387,816	St Petersburg (1881)	876,575
United States—with Alaska	50,442,066	1880	3,602,990	Washington	147,293
German Empire	45,234,061	1880	212,091	Berlin	1,122,360
Turkey	42,213,400	1881	2,396,692	Constantinople	800,000
Austria and Hungary	37,786,246	1880	240,942	Vienna	1,103,857
France	37,405,240	1881	204,092	Paris	2,269,023
Japan	35,925,313	1879	148,700	Yeddo	200,000
Great Britain and Ireland	35,262,762	1881	120,879	London	4,764,312
Italy	28,452,639	1881	114,296	Florence	169,000
Egypt	16,952,000	1875	1,406,250	Cairo	250,000
Spain	16,625,860	1877	182,750	Madrid	397,690
Mexico	10,025,649	1881	743,948	Mexico	315,996
Brazil	9,883,622	1872	3,287,963	Rio de Janiero	274,972
Persia	7,653,600	1881	610,000	Teheran	200,000
Sweden and Norway	6,497,245	1881	293,848	Stockholm	168,775
Belgium	5,519,844	1880	11,373	Brussels	350,000
Roumania	5,290,000	1878	48,307	Bucharest	221,805
Portugal	4,348,551	1878	36,510	Lisbon	246,343
Dominion of Canada	4,324,810	1881	3,470,392	Ottawa	27,412
Netherlands	4,114,077	1881	12,648	Amsterdam	328,047
Switzerland	2,846,102	1880	15,992	Geneva	68,320
Peru	2,699,945	1876	503,718	Lima	101,488
Bolivia	2,300,000			La Paz	
Chili	2,223,434		207,550	Santiago	387,081
Venezuela	2,075,245	1881	439,120	Caraccas	60,000
Greece	1,979,305	1881	25,041	Athens	63,374
Denmark	1,969,039	1880	13,784	Copenhagen	234,850
Argentine Confederation	1,859,685	1869	1,204,186	Buenos Ayres (1881)	289,925
Servia	1,700,241	1880	20,850	Belgrade	27,000
Guatemala	1,252,497	1881	41,830	Santiago de Guatemala	55,728
Ecuador	1,066,137	1875	248,372	Quito	70,000
Liberia	1,050,000		14,300	Monrovia	13,000
Hayti	800,000		10,204	Port au Prince	22,000
San Salvador	554,785	1878	7,225	San Salvador	18,500
Uruguay	438,245	1880	73,538	Montevideo	73,353
Nicaragua	350,000		49,500	Managua	8,000
Honduras	350,000		39,600	Tegucigalpa	12,000
San Domingo	300,000	1880	18,045	San Domingo	10,000
Costa Rica	180,000		26,040	San Jose	2,500

POPULATION OF OHIO BY COUNTIES.

	COUNTIES	1820	1830	1840	1850	1860	1870	1880
	The State	581434	937903	1519467	1980329	2339511	2665260	3198062
1	Adams	10406	12281	13183	18883	20309	20750	24005
2	Allen	.....	578	9079	12109	19185	23623	31314
3	Ashland	.....	.....	.....	23813	22951	21933	23883
4	Ashtabula	7382	14584	23724	28767	31814	32517	37139
5	Athens	6338	9787	19109	18215	21364	23768	28411
6	Auglaize	.....	.....	.....	11338	17187	20041	25444
7	Belmont	20329	28827	30901	34600	36398	39714	49638
8	Brown	13356	17867	22715	27332	29958	30802	32911
9	Butler	21746	27142	28173	30789	35840	39912	42579
10	Carroll	.....	.....	18108	17685	15738	14491	16416
11	Champaign	8479	12131	16721	19782	22698	24188	27817
12	Clark	9533	13114	16882	22178	25300	32070	41944
13	Clermont	15820	20166	23106	30155	33034	34268	36713
14	Clinton	8085	11436	15719	18838	21461	21914	24756
15	Columbiana	22033	35592	40378	33621	32836	38299	48602
16	Coshocton	7086	11161	21590	25674	25032	23600	29642
17	Crawford	.....	4791	13152	18177	23851	25556	30588
18	Cuyahoga	6328	10373	26506	48099	78033	133010	196943
19	Darke	3717	6304	13282	20276	26009	32278	40096
20	Defiance	.....	.....	.....	6966	11886	15719	22515
21	Delaware	7639	11504	22060	21817	23902	25175	27381
22	Erie	.....	.....	12599	18568	24474	28188	32640
23	Fairfield	16633	24786	31924	30264	30538	31138	34284
24	Fayette	6316	8182	10984	12726	15935	17170	20364
25	Franklin	10292	14711	25049	42909	50361	63019	86792
26	Fulton	.....	.....	.....	7781	14043	17789	21053
27	Gallia	7098	9733	13444	17063	23043	25545	28124
28	Geauga	7791	15813	16297	17827	15817	14190	14251
29	Greene	10529	14801	17528	21946	26197	28038	31349
30	Guernsey	9292	18036	27748	30438	24474	23838	27197
31	Hamilton	31764	52317	80145	156844	216410	260370	313374
32	Hancock	.....	813	9986	16751	22886	23847	27784
33	Hardin	.....	210	4598	8251	13570	18714	27023
34	Harrison	14345	20916	20099	20157	19110	18682	20456
35	Henry	.....	262	2503	3434	8901	14028	20585
36	Highland	12308	16345	22269	25781	27773	29133	30281
37	Hocking	2130	4008	9741	14119	17057	17925	21126
38	Holmes	.....	9135	18088	20452	20589	18177	20776
39	Huron	6675	13341	23933	26203	26616	28532	31609
40	Jackson	3746	5911	9744	12719	17911	21759	23686
41	Jefferson	18531	22489	25030	29133	26115	29188	33018
42	Knox	8326	17085	29579	28872	27735	26333	27431
43	Lake	.....	.....	13719	14654	15576	15935	16326
44	Lawrence	3499	5367	9738	15246	23249	31380	39068
45	Licking	11861	20869	35096	38816	37011	35756	40050
46	Logan	3181	6440	14015	19162	20996	23024	26267
47	Lorain	.....	5696	18467	26086	29744	30308	35526
48	Lucas	.....	.....	9382	12363	25831	46722	67377
49	Madison	4799	6190	9025	10015	13015	15633	20129
50	Mahoning	.....	.....	.....	23735	25894	31001	42871
51	Marion	.....	6551	14765	12618	15490	16184	20565
52	Medina	3082	7560	18352	24441	22517	20092	21453
53	Meigs	4480	6158	11452	17971	26534	31165	32325
54	Mercer	.....	1110	8277	7712	14104	17254	21808
55	Miami	8851	12807	19688	21999	29959	32740	36158
56	Monroe	4615	8768	18521	28351	25741	25779	26496
57	Montgomery	15999	24362	31938	38218	52230	64006	78550
58	Morgan	5297	11800	20852	28585	22119	20363	20074
59	Morrow	.....	.....	.....	20280	20415	18583	19072
60	Muskingum	17824	29331	38719	45049	44116	44886	49774
61	Noble	.....	.....	.....	.....	20751	19949	21138
62	Ottawa	.....	.....	2248	3808	7016	13364	19762
63	Paulding	.....	161	1034	1766	4945	8544	13485
64	Perry	8429	13970	19344	20775	19678	18453	28218
65	Pickaway	13149	16001	19725	21006	23469	24875	27415
66	Pike	4253	6024	7626	10953	13643	15447	17927
67	Portage	10095	18826	22965	24419	24208	24584	27500
68	Preble	10237	16291	19182	21736	21830	21809	24533
69	Putnam	.....	330	5189	7221	12808	17081	23713
70	Richland	9169	24006	44532	30879	31158	32516	36306
71	Ross	20619	24068	27160	32074	35071	37097	40307
72	Sandusky	852	2851	10182	14305	21429	25503	32067
73	Scioto	5730	8740	11192	18428	24297	29302	33511
74	Seneca	.....	5159	18128	27104	30868	30827	36947
75	Shelby	2106	3671	12154	13958	17493	20748	24137
76	Stark	12106	26588	34603	39878	42978	52508	64031
77	Summit	.....	.....	22560	27485	27344	34674	43788
78	Trumbull	15516	26153	38107	30490	30656	38659	44880
79	Tuscarawas	8328	14298	25631	31761	32463	33840	40198
80	Union	1996	3192	8422	12201	16507	18730	22375
81	Van Wert	.....	49	1577	4793	10238	15823	23024
82	Vinton	.....	.....	.....	9353	13631	15027	17224
83	Warren	17837	21468	23141	25560	26902	26689	28392
84	Washington	10425	11731	20823	29540	36268	40609	43241
85	Wayne	11933	23333	35808	32981	32483	35116	40076
86	Williams	.....	387	4165	8018	16633	20991	23821
87	Wood	733	1102	5357	9157	17886	24596	34022
88	Wyandot	.....	.....	.....	11194	15596	18553	22305



PART II.

HISTORY OF THE STATE OF OHIO.

GOVERNORS.

From the organization of the first civil government in the Northwest Territory, of which the State of Ohio was a part, until the year 1884.

Term, Two Years.

NAME.	COUNTY.	TERM.	NAME.	COUNTY.	TERM.
Arthur St. Clair (1)	.....	1788–1802	Mordecai Bartley	Richland	1844–1846
Charles W. Byrd (2)	Hamilton	1802–1803	William Bebb	Butler	1846–1849
Edward Tiffin (3)	Ross	1803–1807	Seabury Ford (8)	Geauga	1849–1850
Thomas Kirker (4)	Adams	1807–1808	Reuben Wood (9)	Cuyahoga	1850–1853
Samuel Huntington	Trumbull	1808–1810	William Medill (10)	Fairfield	1853–1856
Return Jonathan Meigs (5)	Washington	1810–1814	Salmon P. Chase	Hamilton	1856–1860
Othniel Looker*	Hamilton	1814	William Dennison	Franklin	1860–1862
Thomas Worthington	Ross	1814–1818	David Tod	Mahoning	1862–1864
Ethan Allen Brown (6)	Hamilton	1818–1822	John Brough (11)	Cuyahoga	1864–1865
Allen Trimble*	Highland	1822	Charles Anderson†	Montgomery	1865–1866
Jeremiah Morrow	Warren	1822–1826	Jacob D. Cox	Trumbull	1866–1868
Allen Trimble	Highland	1826–1830	Rutherford B. Hayes	Hamilton	1868–1872
Duncan McArthur	Ross	1830–1832	Edward F. Noyes	Hamilton	1872–1874
Robert Lucas	Pike	1832–1836	William Allen	Ross	1874–1876
Joseph Vance	Champaign	1836–1838	Rutherford B. Hayes (12)	Sandusky	1876–1877
Wilson Shannon	Belmont	1838–1840	Thomas L. Young†	Hamilton	1877–1878
Thomas Corwin	Warren	1840–1842	Richard M. Bishop	Hamilton	1878–1880
Wilson Shannon (7)	Belmont	1842–1844	Charles Foster	Seneca	1880–1884
Thomas W. Bartley*	Richland	1844	George Hoadly	Hamilton	1884–.....

(1) Arthur St. Clair, of Pennsylvania, was Governor of the Northwest Territory, of which Ohio was a part, from July 13, 1788, when the first civil government was established in the Territory, until about the close of the year 1802, when he was removed by the President.

(2) Secretary of the Territory, and was acting Governor of the Territory after the removal of Gov. St. Clair.

(3) Resigned March 3, 1807, to accept the office of United States Senator.

(4) Return Jonathan Meigs was elected Governor on the second Tuesday of October, 1807, over Nathaniel Massie, who contested the election of Meigs on the ground "that he had not been a resident of this State for four years next preceding the election as required by the Constitution," and the General Assembly, in joint convention, decided that he was not eligible. The office was not given to Massie, nor does it appear from the records that he claimed it, but Thomas Kirker, Acting Governor, continued to discharge the duties of the office until December 12, 1808, when Samuel Huntington was inaugurated, he having been elected on the second Tuesday of October in that year.

(5) Resigned March 25, 1814, to accept the office of Postmaster-General of the United States.

(6) Resigned January 4, 1822, to accept the office of United States Senator.

(7) Resigned April 13, 1844, to accept the office of Minister to Mexico.

(8) The result of the election in 1848 was not finally determined in joint convention of the two houses of the General Assembly until January 19, 1849, and the inauguration did not take place until the 22d of that month.

(9) Resigned July 15, 1853, to accept the office of Consul to Valparaiso.

(10) Elected in October, 1853, for the regular term, to commence on the second Monday of January, 1854.

(11) Died August 29, 1865.

(12) Resigned March 2, 1877, to accept the office of President of the United States.

* Acting Governor. Succeeded to office, being the Speaker of the Senate.

† Acting Governor. Succeeded to office, being the Lieutenant-Governor.

HISTORY OF OHIO.

IT is not our province in a volume of this description, to delineate the chronology of prehistoric epochs, or to dwell at length upon those topics pertaining to the scientific causes which tended to the formation of a continent, undiscovered for centuries, by the wisdom and energy of those making a history of the Old World, by the advancement of enlightenment in the Eastern Hemisphere.

Naturally, the geological formation of the State of Ohio cannot be entirely separated from facts relative to the strata, which, in remote ages accumulated one layer above the other, and finally constituted a "built-up" America, from a vast sea. The action of this huge body of water washed sediment and whatever came in its way upon primitive rocks, which were subjected to frequent and repeated submersions, emerging as the water subsided, thus leaving a stratum or layer to solidify and mark its number in the series—a system of growth repeated in trees of the forest—in those descernible rings that count so many years. The southeastern part of North America emerging a second time from the Silurian Sea, which extended west to the Rocky Mountains and north to the primitive hills of British America, a succession of rock-bound, salt-water lakes remained. These covered a large portion of the continent, and their water evaporating, organic and mineral matter remained to solidify. This thick stratum has been designated by geologists as the water-lime layer. This constitutes the upper layer of rock in the larger portion of the west half of Ohio. In other sections it forms the bed rock.

Following the lime-rock deposit, must have been more frequent sweeps of the great sea, since the layers are comparatively thin, proving a more speedy change. During this scientific rising and falling of the sea, other actions were taking place, such as volcanic and other influences which displaced the regularity of the strata, and occasionally came out in an upheaval or a regular perpendicular dip. A disturbance of this character formed the low mountain range extending from the highlands of Canada to the southern boundary of Tennessee. This "bulge" is supposed to be the consequence of the cooling of the earth and the pressure of the oceans on either side of the continent. Geologists designate this as the Cincinnati arch. This forms a separation between the coal fields of the Alleghanies and those of Illinois.

Passing over several periods, we reach the glacial, during which the topography of the continent was considerably modified, and which is among the latest epochs of geology, though exceedingly remote as compared with human

history. Previously, a torrid heat prevailed the entire Northern hemisphere. Now the temperature of the frigid zone crept southward until it reached Cincinnati. A vast field of ice, perhaps hundreds of feet thick, extended from the north pole to this point. As this glacial rigor came southward, the flow of the St. Lawrence River was stopped, and the surplus water of the great lake basin was turned into the Ohio and Mississippi. This glacial sea was by no means stationary even after its southern limit had been reached. It possessed the properties of a solid and a fluid. Its action was slow but powerful, grinding mountains to powder and forming great valleys and basins. Separating into two glacial portions, one moved toward the watershed north of the Ohio River; and, continuing westerly, it hollowed out the basin of Lake Erie and crushed the apex of the Cincinnati arch. From this point, it turned southward and swept with a regular course through the Maumee and Miami Valleys to the Ohio River. The southern border constantly melting, and flowing toward the Gulf of Mexico, the great field was pressed forward by the accumulations of ice in the northern latitudes. Thus for ages, this powerful force was fitting the earth for the habitation of man. The surface was leveled, huge rocks broken and reduced to pebbles, sand, clay, etc., other soil and surface-material—while the debris was embedded at the bottom. In some sections, as the ice melted and freed the bowlders and rocks, the lighter material was swept away. The glacier moving forward, and the forces proving an "equilibrium," the edge of this ice-field was held in a solid stronghold, and the material thus deposited forms a ridge, called by geologists "terminal moraine," first exemplified in Ohio by the "Black Swamp," in the Maumee Valley.

The most extreme rigor of this period beginning to wane, the ice of the Maumee and Miami Valleys began to move slowly forward, toward the north, reaching the points now termed Hudson, Mich.; Fort Wayne, Ind., and Kenton, Ohio—reaching somewhat further south than Lima and Van Wert. The edge of the glacier was defined in outline by the present western border of Lake Erie, and parallel with it. Climatic influences "acting and counteracting," the glacial force was concentrated, the Maumee Valley being subjected to a grinding process, and a deposit of material going on, which now forms the boundary of the "Black Swamp." As our readers are aware, the waters of the St. Joseph and St. Mary's meet at Fort Wayne, and their united waters form the Maumee; thence the turn is northwest, and, wearing an outlet through the ridge, it reaches the head of Lake Erie.

The torrid zone yet gaining the ascendency, the ice-fields continuing their reverse motion, and retreating toward the north, the basin of the great lakes was formed; and the blocks of ice melting therein, a vast sea of fresh water was formed, which gradually overflowed a portion of Canada and Michigan. But the St. Lawrence, that important outlet, was under the restraint of an ice blockade, and the surplus water of the fresh sea was turned into the Ohio and and Mississippi.

Later, mountains of ice-float were drifted from the north by winds and currents, into temperate latitudes, and melting, deposited rocks, stones and general debris. Following the iceberg-drift, came the permanent elevation above the ocean-level. The St. Lawrence outlet was formed. The inland sea was assuming its division into lakes. The united waters of Erie and Huron flowed through the Wabash Valley and into the Ohio, until, through some agency, that section was dry, and the lakes drained in another direction. The action of the glacial period in the Erie basin vicinity created what is known as the "Niagara limestone," by grinding upper strata and drifting the debris elsewhere. This seems to have occurred at intervals, exposures being made in Seneca, Sandusky and Wood Counties, and beneath the axis of the Cincinnati arch. Oriskany limestone is also available in another stratum, which has been brought to the surface. Again, there is a carboniferous stratum of limestone, and along the Maumee is a thin exposure of the Hamilton limestone and shale.

A glacier having both fluid and solid properties, it will readily be comprehended that obdurate projections of rock resisted its action, and created currents in other directions, for its forces. When this specified epoch had ceased to be, Ohio was a rough, irregular and crude mixture of ridges and knobs and pinnacles, which were "leveled up" and finished by iceberg-drift and inland-sea deposits. This settled and accumulated, and the work of hundreds of years produced a beautiful surface, its inequalities overcome, the water having receded and "terra firma" remaining. A deep bed of clay, sufficiently compact to hold the germs of organic matter, and sufficiently porous to absorb moisture, was especially adapted to encourage the growth of vegetation. These seeds had been brought by the winds and waves and natural agencies, and now began to produce plants and shrubs, which withered to enrich the soil, after scattering broadcast seeds that would again perpetuate verdure. Worms, land crabs and burrowing animals assisted in the creation of soil, while the buffalo, deer and bear followed, as soon as forestry appeared. Decomposed foliage and fallen timber aided in the great work of preparing the present State of Ohio for the habitation of man. Prairie, marsh, forest, rivers and lakes were formed, which, in turn, were modified and prepared for a grand destiny by other influences.

In glancing over the compiled histories of Ohio, those containing details of her early struggles, afflictions and triumphs, we are especially impressed with its near and sympathetic relation with the great Northwest, and the republic of the United States of America. From the early years when white men built their rude cabins in the then tangled wilderness, to the opulent and magnificent present of this united nation, Ohio has been stanch, loyal and earnest, both in action and principle.

We shall endeavor to trace the history of the State concisely and accurately, according to the data given by the most reliable historians. We are obliged to glean the prominent events only, our space being limited, compared with the multitudinous interests connected with this important part of the United States.

FRENCH HISTORY.

All through early French history, is the fact especially prominent, that in their explorations and expeditions, they united piety and business. They were zealous in sending out their missionaries, but they were always attended by traders and those who were as skilled in the world's profit and loss, as their companions were in propagating Christianity.

Prior to the landing of the Pilgrim Fathers upon Plymouth Rock, the Upper Lakes were visited by the French, and records prove that during the first half of the seventeenth century, a vagabondish set, working in the interests of the fur company of New France, understood the geographical position of the lakes and their tributary streams. M. Perrot, an intelligent explorer, made overtures of peace to the Indian tribes around these bodies of water, and effected a treaty, which, it is claimed, established the right for the French, in the name of their king, to hold the place near St. Mary's Falls. They further assert that the Mississippi was discovered by the French from Lake Superior, but this is not authenticated, and Father Marquette and M. Joliet are accepted as the first who found this large stream, in 1763. The good missionary won his way with his patient and sympathetic nature.

Ohio was, like the other portions of the West, originally in the possession of aborigines or Indians. Of their origin, many suppositions are advanced, but no certainties sustained. From practical evidences, the Mound-Builders were active in Ohio, and here as elsewhere, their work marked retrogression rather than advancement. The territory of Ohio was claimed by the French, and included in that wide tract between the Alleghanies and the Rockies, held by them under the name of Louisiana. Before the year 1750, a French trading-post was established at the mouth of the Wabash, and communication was established between that point and the Maumee, and Canada. Between the years 1678 and 1682, the intrepid La Salle and Father Hennepin, assisted by Fondi, an Italian, with a small band of followers, inaugurated a series of explorations about the great lakes and the Mississippi, building forts on their way and planting the French priority. In 1680, La Salle erected a stockade at the foot of the rapids of the Maumee, which was a general rendezvous for missionaries, traders and explorers, besides constituting a primitive "stock exchange."

The English colonies were at this time east of the Alleghanies, while the French were establishing themselves west of this range, gaining an entrance north and south, the two portions separated by hostile and barbarous foes. La Salle's spirit of adventure led him into new fields, but Father Hennepin was detailed to investigate that part of the world now known as the State of Ohio. The records assert that he published a volume containing an account of his observations "in the country between New Mexico and the frozen ocean," in 1684, together with maps of Lakes Erie, Huron and Michigan, and a plat of the larger streams in Ohio.

Apparently, the French more speedily comprehended the value of their advantages in the New World than the English, and vigorously inaugurated and sustained commercial and religious projects. They were essentially benefited by the mediation of the Catholic priests between settlers and Indians, this really earnest class everywhere ingratiating themselves with the savages. The Order of Jesuits were very vigorous, and representatives were stationed at every trading-post, village and settlement. The English colonists engaged mostly in agriculture, while the French took a lively interest in the fur trade with the natives, probably from their former settlement in Quebec and thereabouts, where the climate is advantageous for this business. This added to the influence of the priests, and the natural assimilation of French and the Indians, through the tact and amiability of the former, the French possessions gained more rapidly than the English or Spanish. They courted their daughters and married them. They engaged in feasts and trades, and took advantage of those unimpeded times to extend their dominion with surprising celerity. A chain of trading, missionary and military posts extended from New Orleans to Quebec, by way of the Mississippi and Illinois Rivers, thence via Mackinaw and Detroit to Lakes Erie and Ontario. This route was shortened thereafter by following the Ohio River to the Wabash, following the latter upward, and down the Maumee to Lake Erie.

About the same time, and to check the advancement of the French, the Ohio Company was formed by the English. This was an outgrowth of the contest between these two nations for the ascendency, whether empire, settlement or individual. After thirty years' peace between these two nations, "King George's War" opened the campaign in 1744, but terminated in 1748, the treaty at Aix-la-Chapelle unfortunately omitting a settlement of any division of claims in America. The English, French and Spanish were the first to enter America, and the right of possession by each monarch or empire was held by right of a first discovery. The only right that England could advance regarding Ohio was that the portion of the Six Nations found in the Ohio Valley had placed some of their lands under British jurisdiction, and that other portions had been purchased at Lancaster, Penn., by means of a treaty with the same nations. All this was strenuously denied and ignored by the French. Thus several conflicting influences swept carnage over fair Ohio. The Indians were allied to one side and the other, and were against each other. The Indians and French would advance against the English, and they, in retaliation, would make a raid into the Indian territory and overcome a French settlement. Whenever they could as well, Indians would take the cause in their own keeping and fight each other. The wide, verdant fields of Ohio were drenched ghastly red under a glowing sun, and the great forests echoed moans from the dying and distressed. The English colonists had partially overcome their deprivation, caused by a struggle for subsistence, and means to guard against the savages—this distress augmented by campaigns against Canada—by their

increased numbers and wealth, but were now alarmed by the French rule in America, which gained so rapidly, unmolested as it was by Indian raids and other devastating circumstances. A constant conflict was going on between Lake Erie and the Upper Ohio. Atrocities and massacres were committed indiscriminately, which opened the way for a desperate class of marauders and villains from the colonies and European States. These people enlisted with the Indians on either side for the purpose of leadership and plunder. Every fortification, trading-post and settlement was garrisoned or deserted, and the ground between the Alleghanies and the Maumee became a conflict field, rife with thrilling deeds, sacrifice and adventures, the half never having been chronicled, and many heroes falling uncrowned by even a lasting memory, since during these times the people kept few annals, and cared less for historical memories than anything on earth. They were living, and dying, and struggling, and that was more than they could carry through safely. The French formed a road from the Ohio River to Detroit, via the foot of the Lower Rapids of the Maumee, and the foot of the Lower Rapids of the Sandusky.

The Ohio Company obtained a charter under English views, from the British Government, with a grant of 6,000 acres of land on the Ohio. The English now reverted to the times of the Cabots, and protested that by right they held the entire country between the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans, bounded by those parallels of latitude defining their Atlantic coast settlements. France claimed the region drained by the Mississippi and tributaries, the great lakes and their tributaries, the area being west of the Alleghanies. Ohio was thus included in the disputed tract.

The Ohio Company was formed in 1748, by a number of Virginians and Londoners, two brothers of George Washington taking conspicuous parts in the movement; Thomas Lee was especially active. When the surveys were begun, the Governor of Canada entered vigorous protests, and indicated his displeasure by a prompt line of posts from Erie to Pittsburgh, named respectively, Presque Isle, Le Bœuf, Vedango, Kittaning and Du Quesne. The latter was begun by the English, captured by the French, and by them completed.

The first English settlement of which we can find traces was a block-house at Piqua, about the year 1752. It was attacked, and a bitter struggle ensued, resulting in the death of fourteen of the assailants. Those within the garrison suffered severely, many being burned, and the remainder captured and dispatched to Canada.

In 1753, the French and Indian war actively began. It did not extend beyond the American continent until 1756, when the home governments took an interest in its progress beyond encouraging their respective colonists to pursue the war-path to a direful finale for their adversaries. For four years, the French captured and conquered, spreading terror wherever they went, and they followed every Englishman that set his foot on Ohio soil to the death. We may state that these people had not retained their civilized habits, and

constant association with savages had embued them with barbarous methods of warfare which were sickening and revolting to the English, and to which they could not resort. It is highly probable that French success was vastly brought about by these means, together with the assistance of their Indian allies. In 1758, when the English hope was almost exterminated, the elder Pitt being placed at the head of the administration, a new and energetic system was inaugurated, wise measures instituted, and military science triumphed over savage cunning and French intrigue. The first brilliant English achievement was the conquest of Canada. When the home governments interfered, the war assumed the character of a French and English conflict, regardless of Indian right, yet the tribes continued to participate in the carnage.

A certain Christian, Frederick Post, a Moravian missionary, located upon the Muskingum, near Beavertown. Heckewelder consented to become his associate. The Indians receiving them kindly, under conditions that Post should serve as tutor, this missionary began clearing a field for the purpose of planting corn for sustenance. This did not accord with Indian logic. They had stipulated that he teach and he was planting corn, which to them was a signal of the coming of other whites, the building of a fort and encroachments upon the Indians. They referred to the French priests, who were in good physical condition, did not till land, but were in charge of the Great Spirit who provided for them, a conclusive proof to them that when divine work was acceptable to the Great Spirit, priests were somehow sustained by other than the plans which disturbed their great hunting-grounds. However, they allowed him a small space, and he remained with them, preaching and teaching during the summer of 1762, when, accompanied by one of the principal chiefs, he returned to Lancaster, Penn., where a treaty was concluded. On his return to his post, he was met by Heckewelder, who imparted the tidings that friendly Indians had warned him that the war was about to sweep over their section, and destruction awaited them if they remained. The mission was accordingly abandoned. This failure was not so bitter as the English effort to sustain their trading-post in 1749, on the Great Miami, afterward called Laramie's store. It pursued a feeble existence until 1752, when a French raid upon the Twigtwees and English colonists proved fatal.

A European treaty now excluded the French from any rights to make treaties with the Indians, and the English, in their flush of victory after Pitt's succession, assumed the authority over Indians and lands. The savages did not accept the situation with anything resembling the gentle spirit of resignation, and the Ottawa chief, Pontiac, led the several tribes into a general war against the intruders. It was no longer French and English, but Indian and English, the former being instigated and assisted many times by the French, now desperate and unscrupulous in a mad spirit for revenge.

The intention of the Indians was to drive the whites east of the mountains, destroying their numerous strongholds in Pennsylvania and Virginia, if they

failed in their hope of utterly exterminating them. Pontiac had effected a consolidation of the tribes ranging from Mackinaw to North Carolina, thus being enabled to swoop down upon all the settlements simultaneously. A deadly beginning was made in the Ohio Valley, and only two or three English traders escaped out of the one hundred and twenty located in that vicinity. The forts at Presque Isle, St. Joseph and Mackinaw, were captured amid scenes of slaughter too terrible to perpetuate in description. The years 1763 and 1764 were literally drenched in human carnage and anguish. Ohio was a great field of crime, murder, pain and horror. The expeditions of Bradstreet and Bouquet crushed the war in 1764, and Pontiac with his Ottawas removed to the Maumee and settled. English settlement now progressed with great rapidity, but this was destined to be disturbed in 1774, by the action of Lord Dunmore, who led an expedition against the tribes of the Ohio country, terminated by his treaty on the Scioto plains. At this period, the colonists were not in strict harmony with England, and the spirit of revolution was spreading every day.

When Lord Dunmore made his treaty, the affirmation was made and gained ground that he, being a thorough loyalist, had compromised under such terms as held the Indians British allies against the settlers. Directly following this treaty, was the deliberate murder of a number of Indians, near Wheeling, including the family of the great chief, Logan—which inaugurated retaliating atrocities.

In the year 1773, July 4, the first white child was born within the present limits of Ohio, and was christened John L. Roth, son of a Moravian missionary. All the settlers of these Moravian towns on the Muskingum were made prisoners in September of the same year. Heckwelder was transported to Detroit, but English tyranny failed to find any evidence against him or his colaborers, and they were reluctantly released, and returned to their families in Sandusky. Poverty added to their sufferings, and in the forlorn hope of finding a remnant of their property at the old settlements, which might assist in mitigating their necessities, they wearily went thitherward. They began gathering their grain, but the Wyandots attacked them, and many lives were lost. Frontiersmen had also grown jealous of them, and a body of about ninety marched out together, for the fiendish purpose of pillaging, slaughtering and laying waste all Moravian towns and posts. With the wily insidiousness of savages, they went about their diabolical plan. The Moravians were cordial and bade this band welcome, when they reached their towns in the guise of friendship. Williamson, the leader, and the gleaners, were called from the fields, when, to the dismay of these trusting and frank people, they were all bound, and only fifteen out of the marauding band of ninety were in favor of even sparing the lives of these hapless men, women and children. Forty men, twenty-two women and thirty-four children were then cruelly and heartlessly murdered, their sufferings laughed to scorn, and the last sound that fell on their



Lewis Dukes . sr



ears was exultant derision. Succeeding this tragic event was the expedition against the Indian towns upon the Sandusky. The hostile Indians had been making frequent incursions upon the settlements of Western Pennsylvania and Virginia, destroying both life and property. There seemed to be no bounds to their bloody work, and it became necessary, for the peace and safety of the settlers, to take some measures to prevent their outrages. Accordingly, in May, 1782, Gen. William Irvine, who was then commander of the Western Military Department, with headquarters at Fort Pitt, called a council of the officers of his department to meet at Fort Pitt. At this meeting it was decided to form and equip a body of men, and make an expedition into the Indian country. Upper Sandusky, then the rendezvous of the hostile Wyandots, Delawares, Shawanese and Mingoes, was to be the point of attack.

Col. William Crawford led the expedition, which counted 480 men. Warning had in some manner reached the towns, and the troops found them deserted. But the Indians were incensed, and their wrath had not driven them to hiding-places, but to a preparation to meet their foes. They fought desperately, and Crawford's troops were defeated and scattered, many being captured, and among them Col. Crawford himself. It is hardly probable that Crawford could justly expect much mercy at the hands of his captors. Accounts state that Crawford implored the aid of Girty, and at last secured a promise to use his power to obtain the Colonel's pardon. However, this was of no avail, and it is doubtful whether Girty was disposed to intercede. The prisoners were tortured and put to death, and Crawford's agonies were protracted as long as possible. Dr. Knight managed to disable the Indian who had him in charge, and made his escape to the settlements, where he related the result of the expedition and the tortures of the captured.

On October 27, 1784, a treaty was concluded at Fort Stanwix, with the sachems and warriors of the Mohawks, Onondagas, Senecas, Cayugas, Oneidas and Tuscaroras, and the Six Nations then ceded to the Colonial Government all claims to the country west of a line defined by the western boundary to the Ohio—thus rendering the Indian claim to a large portion of Ohio lands practically extinct.

Although the French and Indian war was a series of heart-rending events, it was a serious and remarkable school of discipline for the untrained troops which soon engaged in the Revolutionary struggle. On the fields of Ohio, many valuable officers, who earned distinction in the war of independence, learned their first lessons in intrepid valor.

During the Revolution, the colonial troops were engaged east of the mountains, and western settlements and frontier people were left alone to defend themselves and their property against encroachments and attacks.

The Indian tribes again became belligerent, and united with the English against the "Americans." The latter held a line of posts along the Upper Ohio, while the British were stationed in the old French strongholds on the lakes and the Mississippi. The unscrupulous whites and Indians ranged at random between this boundary and the Cuyahoga, thence southerly to the Ohio,

thus including the Scioto and Miami Valleys. Southeastern Ohio constituted "the neutral ground."

Gen. Clarke's expedition, although chiefly confined to Indiana and Illinois, greatly influenced the settlement of Ohio. His exploits and the resolution of his troops were chiefly instrumental in holding the country west of the Alleghanies, and insuring its possession by the United States during the Revolution. The British had been emphatic, in the Paris treaty, at the time of the settlement of the French and English difficulties, in demanding the Ohio River as the northern boundary of the United States. The American Commissioners relied upon Gen. Clarke's valor and energy in holding the country west of the Alleghanies, which he had conquered, and the British Commissioners were compelled to give their consent, under civil and military measures. In 1783, by the treaty of Paris, at the close of the Revolutionary war, the English relinquished all rights to the fertile territory between the Alleghanies and the Mississippi, and the United States held undisputed possession.

January 10, 1786, Gens. Rufus Putnam and Benjamin Tupper circulated a pamphlet, proposing the formation of a company for the purpose of settling the Ohio lands, and soliciting the attention and consideration of all those desiring a future home and prosperity. A meeting was also called, to assemble during the following February, and select delegates to represent each county in Massachusetts. These dignitaries should convene during the month of March, at the "Bunch of Grapes" tavern, in Boston, for the purpose of definitely forming the association, and adopting such measures as would benefit all directly interested. The meeting and "convention" followed, and the subscription books were opened. One million dollars, chiefly represented by Continental certificates, was the price of the land. The shares were valued at $1,000 each, and there was a division of a thousand shares. The first payment was to be $10 per share, this money to be set aside for such expenses as might accrue. A year's interest was to be devoted to the establishment of the settlement, and those families who were unable to incur the expense of moving were to be assisted. Those who purchased shares to the number of twenty were entitled to a representation by an agent, who was permitted to vote for Directors. This plan matured and was acted upon during the following year. It may be that the action of Connecticut, in ceding her territorial claims to the General Government, with few exceptions, greatly encouraged this new undertaking. That tract was, until recently, designated the "Western Reserve"—an extent 170 miles from the western boundary of Pennsylvania, and parallel thereto, being reserved.

On October 27, 1787, a contract was made between the Board of the Treasury, for the United States, and Manasseh Cutler and Winthrop Sargent, agents for the Directors of the New England Ohio Company, for the purchase of a tract of land, bounded by the Ohio, and from the mouth of the Scioto to the intersection of the western boundary of the seventh townships, then surveying; thence by said boundary to the northern boundary of the tenth township from

the Ohio; thence, by a due west line, to the Scioto; thence, by the Scioto, to the beginning.

However fertile and attractive Ohio was known to have been, settlement did not gain rapidly after the close of the war with England, although the United States has gained her freedom. It was more than six years after Cornwallis laid down his sword, before a white settlement was formed on the *Ohio* side of the river. The French and Indian war had incited the English to be jealous of her colonial conquests, and mistrusting their loyalty, they had, so soon as the French claims were annulled, taken measures to crush all colonial claims also, and a royal proclamation rescinded all colonial land grants and charters, holding all the country west of the sources of the Atlantic rivers under the protection and sovereignty of the king of Great Britain, for the use of the Indians. All white persons were forbidden to remain or settle within the prescribed limits. Parliament then attached this tract to Quebec, and the English Government felt assured that the thirteen colonies were restricted and held secure east of the Alleghanies.

The result of the war between the colonies and England did not constitute an Indian treaty. Although England signed over her title and right, the savages held the land and ignored all white agreements, one way or the other. Whenever an attempt at settlement was undertaken, Indian depredations proved disastrous. The tribes were encouraged by the English fur traders, and the English commandant at Detroit incited them to destroy all Americans who attempted to usurp the rights of red men.

Added to this serious difficulty was the unsettled debate regarding State claims, which rendered a title precarious. A treaty, signed at Fort McIntosh, previous to the war, and authenticated, shows that during the conflict the Delawares and Wyandots occupied the Indian and British frontier, on the southern shore of Lake Erie, from the Cuyahoga to the Maumee, and from the lake to the sources of its tributaries. Later, these two tribes ceded to the United States "the neutral ground," by warranty deed, and by quit-claim, the territory south and west of the described tract, set apart for their use.

By special measures, the grant of Congress in the matter of the Ohio Company extended to nearly 5,000,000 acres, valued at $3,500,000. The original Ohio Company obtained 1,500,000 acres, the remaining being reserved by individuals, for private speculation.

The same year, Congress appointed Arthur St. Clair, Governor, and Winthrop Sargent, Secretary, of the Territory.

Fort Harmar had previously been built, at the mouth of the Muskingum, and in 1788, a New England colony attempted the "Muskingum settlement," on the opposite side, which was afterward named *Marietta*. In July, 1788, the Territorial officers were received in this village, and there established the first form of civil government, as set forth in the Ordinance of 1787. Three United States Judges were appointed, and Courts of Common Pleas, Probate and Justice were established.

If the stormy times were supposed to be of the past, that composure was rudely broken by the utter disregard of the Shawnee and other Indian tribes, who soon induced the Delawares and Wyandots to repudiate their consent in the matter of settlement. The miseries of frontier horrors were repeated. The British commandant at Detroit instigated many of these hostilities, yet the American Government took honorable action in assuring the English representative that American military preparations in the West was not an expedition against Detroit, or other British possessions, although the possession of Detroit by that nation was in direct opposition to the treaty of 1783. Gov. St. Clair, to avert the direful consequences of a border war, dispatched a Frenchman, Gamcline, to the principal Indian towns of the Wabash and Maumee countries, to request them to meet the United States agents, and make a compromise for the benefit of both parties, at the same time reiterating the desire of the General Government to adhere to the Fort Harmar treaty. The Miamis, Shawnees, Ottawas, Kickapoos and Delawares received this representative kindly, but declined the wampum sent by the Governor, and deferred giving an answer until they had considered the subject with the "father at Detroit."

Blue Jacket, chief of the Shawnees, informed the Frenchman that the Indians doubted the sincerity of the Americans. The new settlement on the Ohio was a proof that the whites intended to crowd further and further, until the Indians were again and again robbed of their just right. He then emphatically asserted that unless the north side of the river was kept free from these inroads there could be no terms of peace with the Shawnees, and many other tribes.

Blue Jacket was unusually intelligent and sagacious, and expressed himself eloquently. He was persistent in his determination to engage in the war of extermination, should the white settlements continue north of the Ohio.

These overtures were continued, but they failed in producing any arrangement that permitted the whites to locate north of the Ohio.

Congress called upon Kentucky and Pennsylvania to lend the aid of their militia. Gen. Harmar was instructed to destroy the Miami villages at the head of the Maumee. Late in the fall of 1790, he executed this order.

The Indians had stored a large quantity of provisions, in expectation of a campaign, and this dependence was devastated. Without authority, and with undue carelessness, he divided his army and attempted to achieve other victories. He more than lost what he had gained. Two raids upon the Wabash Indians, thereafter, proved successful, but the campaign under Gov. St. Clair was not calculated to establish peace or obtain power, and was deemed but little less than a failure.

The year 1792 was a series of skirmishes, so far as a settlement was concerned, but 1793 succeeded well enough to convene a meeting of United States Commissioners and representatives of the hostile tribes, at the rapids of the Maumee. It is highly probable that a satisfactory treaty might have been arranged, had it not been for the intervention and malicious influence of the

British Superintendent of Indian Affairs, Col. McKee, his assistant Capt. Elliott, and the notorious Capt. Simon Girty, who instigated the savages to deeds more horrible than their own barbarisms.

It was evident that a severe struggle must ensue, and Capt. Wayne, in 1792, appointed to the command of the Western army, was called upon to conduct the campaign. He exhibited his wisdom in the beginning, by preparing his men in military discipline and fully equipping them before marching to meet a savage foe in a wilderness. Various causes detained the army, and it was not until the fall of 1793, that the force marched from Fort Washington (Cincinnati) to begin the battle.

It was already late in the season, and, before any progress had been made, the army went into winter quarters at Greenville, on a branch of the Big Miami.

In the mean time, the Ohio Company had not matured its practical "settlement plan," although a generous grant had been obtained. In 1792, they received a clear title to 750,000 acres of land, for which the full price had previously been paid, in Continental currency. Congress set aside 214,285 acres as army bounties, and 100,000 acres to actual settlers. The two latter appropriations joined that of the Ohio Company.

There had been numerous conventions, discussions and other fruitless attempts to somehow form a plan for the government of the Northwest Territory, but it was not until July 13, 1787, that an ordinance was passed, and that was the result of Dr. Cutler's efforts. Every State sustained its measures.

This ordinance was the foundation of the constitution of the future State of Ohio, and indeed, permeates the entire Northwestern creed.

ORDINANCE OF 1787.—No. 32.

AN ORDINANCE FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF THE TERRITORY OF THE UNITED STATES, NORTHWEST OF THE OHIO RIVER.

Be it ordained by the United States in Congress assembled, That the said Territory, for the purpose of government, be one district; subject, however, to be divided into two districts, as future circumstances may, in the opinion of Congress, make it expedient.

Be it ordained by the authority aforesaid, That the estates of both resident and non-resident proprietors in the said Territory, dying intestate, shall descend to and be distributed among their children and the descendants of a deceased child, in equal parts; the descendants of a deceased child or grandchild to take the share of their deceased parent in equal parts among them. And when there shall be no children or descendants, then in equal parts to the next of kin in equal degree; and among collaterals, the children of a deceased brother or sister of the intestate shall have, in equal parts among them, their deceased parent's share; and there shall in no case be a distribution between kindred of the whole and half blood, saving in all cases to the widow of intestate, her third part of the real estate, for life, and one-third part of the personal estate; and this law relative to descents and dower, shall remain in full force until altered by the Legislature of the district. And until the Governor and Judges shall adopt laws as hereinafter mentioned, estates in said Territory may be devised or bequeathed by wills in writing, signed and sealed by him or her in whom the estate may be (being of full age), and attested by three witnesses; and real estate may be conveyed by lease and release, or bargain and sale, signed and sealed, and delivered by the person (being in full age) in whom the estate may be, and attested

by two witnesses, provided such wills be duly proved, and such conveyances be acknowledged, or the execution thereof duly proved and be recorded within one year after proper magistrates, courts and registers shall be appointed for that purpose. And personal property may be transferred by delivery, saving, however, to the French and Canadian inhabitants and other settlers of the Kaskaskias, St. Vincent's and the neighboring villages, who have heretofore professed themselves citizens of Virginia, their laws and customs now in force among them, relative to the descent and conveyance of property.

Be it ordained by the authority aforesaid, That there shall be appointed from time to time, by Congress, a Governor whose commission shall continue in force for a term of three years, unless sooner revoked by Congress. He shall reside in the district and have a freehold estate therein, of a thousand acres of land while in the exercise of his office.

There shall be appointed from time to time by Congress, a Secretary whose commission shall continue in force for two years, unless sooner revoked. He shall reside in the district, and shall have a freehold estate therein in 500 acres of land, while in the exercise of his office. It shall be his duty to keep and preserve the acts and laws passed by the Legislature, and the public records of the district, and the proceedings of the Governor in his executive department, and transmit authentic copies of such acts and proceedings every six months, to the Secretary of Congress. There shall also be appointed a court to consist of three Judges, any two of whom to form a court, who shall have a common law jurisdiction and shall reside in the district and have each therein a freehold estate in 500 acres of land, while in the exercise of their office, and their commissions shall continue in force during good behavior.

The Governor and Judges, or a majority of them, shall adopt and publish in the district such laws of the original States, criminal and civil, as may be necessary and best suited to the circumstances of the district, and report them to Congress from time to time, which laws shall be in force in the district until the organization of the General Assembly therein, unless disapproved by Congress. But afterward, the Legislature shall have authority to alter them, as they shall think fit.

The Governor, for the time being, shall be commander-in-chief of the militia, appoint and commission all officers in the same, below the rank of general officers. All general officers shall be appointed and commissioned by Congress.

Previous to the organization of the General Assembly, the Governor shall appoint such magistrates and other civil officers in each county or township, as he shall find necessary for the preservation of the peace and good order in the same. After the General Assembly shall be organized, the powers and duties of magistrates and other civil officers shall be regulated and defined by the said Assembly, but all magistrates and other civil officers not herein otherwise directed, shall, during the continuance of this temporary government, be appointed by the Governor.

For the prevention of crimes and injuries, the laws to be adopted or made shall have force in all parts of the district, and for the execution of process, criminal or civil, the Governor shall make proper divisions thereof, and he shall proceed from time to time as circumstances may require, to lay out the parts of the district in which the Indian titles shall have been extinguished, into counties and townships, subject, however, to such alterations as may thereafter be made by the Legislature. So soon as there shall be 5,000 free male inhabitants of full age in the district, upon giving proof thereof to the Governor, they shall receive authority with time and place, to elect representatives from their counties or townships, to represent them in the General Assembly. *Provided*, That for every 500 free male inhabitants, there shall be one representative, and so on progressively with the number of free male inhabitants, shall the right of representation increase, until the number of representatives shall amount to twenty-five. After which, the number shall be regulated by the Legislature. *Provided*, That no person be eligible or qualified to act as a representative unless he shall have been a citizen of one of the United States three years, and be a resident in the district, or unless he shall have resided in the district three years, and in either case, shall likewise hold in his own right in fee simple 200 acres of land within the same.

Provided, Also, that a freehold in 50 acres of land in the district, having been a citizen of one of the States, and being a resident in the district, or the like freehold and two years' residence in the district, shall be necessary to qualify a man as an elector of a representative.

The representatives thus elected, shall serve for the term of two years. And in case of the death of a representative or removal from office, the Governor shall issue a writ to the county or township for which he was a member, to elect another in his stead, to serve for the residue of the term.

The General Assembly or Legislature shall consist of the Governor, Legislative Council, and a House of Representatives. The Legislative Council shall consist of five members, to continue in office five years, unless sooner removed by Congress; any three of whom to be a quorum. And the members of the Council shall be nominated and appointed in the following manner, to wit:

As soon as representatives shall be elected, the Governor shall appoint a time and place for them to meet together, and when met, they shall nominate ten persons, residents in the district, and each person in a freehold in 500 acres of land, and return their names to Congress, five of whom Congress shall appoint and commission as aforesaid. And whenever a vacancy shall happen in the Council by death or removal from office, the House of Representatives shall nominate two persons, qualified as aforesaid, for each vacancy, and return their names to Congress, one of whom Congress shall appoint and commission for the residue of the term. And every five years, four months at least before the expiration of the time of service of the members of the Council, the said House shall nominate ten persons qualified as aforesaid, and return their names to Congress, five of whom Congress shall appoint and commission to serve as members of the Council five years, unless sooner removed. And the Governor, Legislative Council and House of Representatives shall have authority to make laws in all cases, for the good government of the district, not repugnant to the principles and articles in this Ordinance, established and declared.

And all bills having passed by a majority in the House, and by a majority in the Council, shall be referred to the Governor for his assent. But no bill or legislative act whatever, shall be of any force without his assent. The Governor shall have power to convene, prorogue and dissolve the General Assembly, when in his opinion it shall be expedient.

The Governor, Judges, Legislative Council, Secretary, and such other officers as Congress shall appoint in the district, shall take an oath or affirmation of fidelity and of office. The Governor before the President of Congress, and all other officers before the Governor.

As soon as a Legislature shall be formed in the district, the Council and House assembled in one room, shall have authority by joint ballot to elect a delegate to Congress, who shall have a seat in Congress, with a right of debating, but not of voting, during this temporary government.

And for extending the fundamental principles of civil and religious liberty, which forms the basis whereon these republics, their laws and constitutions, are created; to fix and establish those principles as the basis of all laws, constitutions and governments, which forever hereafter shall be formed in said Territory. To provide for the establishment of States, and permanent governments therein, and for their admission to a share in the Federal Council on an equal footing with the original States, at as early periods as may be consistent with the general interest.

It is hereby ordained and declared by the authority aforesaid, That the following articles shall be considered as articles of compact between the original States and the people, and States in said Territory, and forever remain unaltered unless by common consent, to wit:

ARTICLE II. The inhabitants of said Territory shall always be entitled to the benefits of the writ of *habeas corpus*, and of the trial by jury; of a proportionate representation of the people in the Legislature, and of judicial procedure according to the course of common law. All persons shall be bailable, except for capital offenses, where the proof shall be evident or the presumption great. All fines shall be moderate, and no cruel or unreasonable punishment shall be inflicted. No man shall be deprived of his liberty or property, but by the judgment of his peers or the law of the land. And should the public exigencies make it necessary for the common preservation, to take any person's property, or to demand his particular services, full compensation

shall be made for the same. And in the just preservation of rights and property, it is understood and declared that no law ought ever to be made or have force in the said Territory, that shall in any manner whatever interfere with or effect private contracts or engagements *bona fide* and without fraud, previously formed.

ART. III. Religion, morality and knowledge being necessary to good government and the happiness of mankind, schools and the means of education shall forever be encouraged. The utmost good faith shall always be observed toward the Indians; their lands and property shall never be taken from them without their consent; and in their property, rights and liberty they shall never be invaded or disturbed, unless in just and lawful wars authorized by Congress. But laws founded in justice and humanity, shall from time to time be made for preventing wrongs being done to them, and for preserving peace and friendship with them.

ART. IV. The said Territory and the States which may be formed therein, shall ever remain a part of the confederacy of the United States of America, subject to the articles of confederation, and to such alterations therein as shall be constitutionally made, and to all the acts and ordinances of the United States in Congress assembled conformable thereto. The inhabitants and settlers in said Territory shall be subject to pay a part of the federal debts contracted or to be contracted, and a proportional part of the expenses of the Government, to be apportioned on them by Congress, according to the same common rule and measure by which apportionments thereof shall be made on the other States, and the taxes for paying their proportion shall be laid and levied by the authority and directions of the Legislature of the district or districts or new States, within the time agreed upon by the United States in Congress assembled. The Legislatures of those districts or new States, shall never interfere with the primary disposal of the soil by the United States in Congress assembled, nor with any regulations Congress may find necessary for securing the title in such soil to the *bona-fide* purchasers. No tax shall be imposed on lands the property of the United States, and in no case, shall non-residents be taxed higher than residents. The navigable waters leading into the Mississippi and St Lawrence, and the carrying places between the same, shall be common highways, and forever free as well to the inhabitants of the said Territory as to the citizens of the United States and those of any other States that may be admitted into the confederacy, without any tax, impost or duty therefor.

ART. V. There shall be formed in said Territory not less than three, nor more than five, States, and the boundaries of the States, as soon as Virginia shall alter her act of cession and consent to the same, shall become fixed and established as follows, to wit: The western State in the said Territory shall be bounded by the Mississippi, the Ohio, the Wabash Rivers; a direct line drawn from the Wabash and Post St. Vincent, due north to the Territorial line between the United States and Canada; and by the said Territorial line to the Lake of the Woods and Mississippi. The middle State shall be bounded by the said direct line, the Wabash from Post St. Vincent to the Ohio, by the Ohio, by a direct line drawn due north from the mouth of the Great Miami to the said Territorial line. The eastern State shall be bounded by the last-mentioned direct line, the Ohio, Pennsylvania and said territorial line. *Provided*, however, and it is further understood and declared, that the boundaries of those three States shall be subject so far to be altered, that, if Congress shall hereafter find it expedient, they shall have authority to form one or two States in that part of the said Territory which lies north of an east and west line drawn through the southerly bend or extreme of Lake Michigan. And whenever any of the said States shall have 60,000 free inhabitants therein, such State shall be admitted by its delegates into the Congress of the United States on an equal footing with the original States in all respects whatever, and shall be at liberty to form a permanent constitution and State government. *Provided*, The constitution and government so to be formed, shall be represented, and in conformity to the principles contained in these articles; and so far as it can be consistent with the general interest of the confederacy, such admission shall be allowed at an earlier period, and when there may be a less number of free inhabitants than 60,000.

ART. VI. There shall be neither slavery nor involuntary servitude in the said Territory, otherwise than in the punishment of crimes whereof the party shall have been duly convicted. *Provided always*, That any person escaping into the same from whom labor or service is lawfully

claimed in one of the original States, each fugitive may be lawfully claimed and conveyed to the person claiming his or her labor or services as aforesaid.

Be it ordained by the authority aforesaid, That the resolutions of the 23d of April, 1784, relative to the subject of this ordinance, be and the same are hereby repealed and declared null and void.

COMMENT BY S. P. CHASE 1833.

It would be difficult to find a more comprehensive review of the foundations of our system of laws than is given in the "Preliminary Sketch of the History of Ohio," by this distinguished representative of the bench and the bar of America. The work is now out of print, and is not easily obtained; besides, its great author has passed away; so these extracts are made more with a view of preserving *old* historical literature, than of introducing new; furthermore, the masses of the people have never had convenient access to the volumes, which, for the most part, have been in the hands of professional men only. The publication of the work first brought its compiler before the public, and marked the beginning of that career which, during its course, shaped the financial system of our country, and ended upon the Supreme Bench of the nation.

"By the ordinance of 1785, Congress had executed in part the great national trust confided to it, by providing for the disposal of the public lands for the common good, and by prescribing the manner and terms of sale. By that of 1787, provision was made for successive forms of Territorial government, adapted to successive steps of advancement in the settlement of the Western country. It comprehended an intelligible system of law on the descent and conveyance of real property, and the transfer of personal goods. It also contained five articles of compact between the original States, and the people and States of the Territory, establishing certain great fundamental principles of governmental duty and private right, as the basis of all future constitutions and legislation, unalterable and indestructible, except by that final and common ruin, which, as it has overtaken all former systems of human polity, may yet overwhelm our American union. Never, probably, in the history of the world, did a measure of legislation so accurately fulfill, and yet so mightily exceed the anticipations of the legislators. The ordinance has been well described, as having been a pillar of cloud by day and of fire by night, in the settlement and government of the Northwestern States. When the settlers went into the wilderness, they found the law already there. It was impressed upon the soil itself, while it yet bore up nothing but the forest. The purchaser of land became, by that act, a party to the compact, and bound by its perpetual covenants, so far as its conditions did not conflict with the terms of the cessions of the States.

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This remarkable instrument was the last gift of the Congress of the old confederation to the country, and it was a fit consummation of their glorious

labors. At the time of its promulgation, the Federal Constitution was under discussion in the convention; and in a few months, upon the organization of the new national government, that Congress was dissolved, never again to re-assemble. Some, and indeed most of the principles established by the articles of compact are to be found in the plan of 1784, and in the various English and American bills of rights. Others, however, and these not the least important, are original. Of this number are the clauses in relation to contracts, to slavery and to Indians. On the whole, these articles contain what they profess to contain, the true theory of American liberty. The great principles promulgated by it are wholly and purely American. They are indeed the genuine principles of freedom, unadulterated by that compromise with circumstances, the effects of which are visible in the constitution and history of the Union.

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The first form of civil government, provided by the ordinance, was now formally established within the Territory. Under this form, the people had no concern in the business of government. The Governor and Judges derived their appointments at first from Congress, and after the adoption of the Federal Constitution, from the President. The commission of the former officer was for the term of three years, unless sooner revoked; those of the latter were during good behavior. It was required that the Governor should reside within the Territory, and possess a freehold estate there, in one thousand acres of land. He had authority to appoint all officers of militia, below the rank of Generals, and all magistrates and civil officers, except the Judges and the Secretary of the Territory; to establish convenient divisions of the whole district for the execution of progress, to lay out those parts to which the Indian titles might be extinguished into counties and townships. The Judges, or any two of them, constituted a court with common law jurisdiction. It was necessary that each Judge should possess a freehold estate in the territory of five hundred acres. The whole legislative power which, however, extended only to the adoption of such laws of the original States as might be suited to the circumstances of the country, was vested in the Governor and Judges. The laws adopted were to continue in force, unless disapproved by Congress, until repealed by the Legislature, which was afterward to be organized. It was the duty of the Secretary to preserve all acts and laws, public records and executive proceedings, and to transmit authentic copies to the Secretary of Congress every six months.

Such was the first government devised for the Northwestern Territory. It is obvious that its character, as beneficent or oppressive, depended entirely upon the temper and disposition of those who administrated it. All power, legislative, judicial and executive, was concentrated in the Governor and Judges, and in its exercise they were responsible only to the distant Federal head. The expenses of the Government were defrayed in part by the United States, but were principally drawn from the pockets of the people in the shape of fees.

This temporary system, however unfriendly as it seems to liberty, was, perhaps, so established upon sufficient reasons. The Federal Constitution had not then been adopted, and there were strong apprehensions that the people of the Territory might not be disposed to organize States and apply for admission into the Union. It was, therefore, a matter of policy so to frame the Territorial system as to create some strong motives to draw them into the Union, as States, in due time.

The first acts of Territorial legislation were passed at Marietta, then the only American settlement northwest of the Ohio. The Governor and Judges did not strictly confine themselves within the limits of their legislative authority, as prescribed by the ordinance. When they could not find laws of the original States suited to the condition of the country, they supplied the want by enactments of their own. The earliest laws, from 1788 to 1795, were all thus enacted. The laws of 1788 provided for the organization of the militia; for the establishment of inferior courts; for the punishment of crimes, and for the limitations of actions; prescribed the duties of ministerial officers; regulated marriages, and appointed oaths of office. That the Governor and Judges in the enactment of these laws, exceeded their authority, without the slightest disposition to abuse it, may be inferred from the fact that except two, which had been previously repealed, they were all confirmed by the first Territorial Legislature.

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At this period there was no seat of government, properly called. The Governor resided at Cincinnati, but laws were passed whenever they seemed to be needed, and promulgated at any place where the Territorial legislators happened to be assembled. Before the year of 1795, no laws were, strictly speaking, adopted. Most of them were framed by the Governor and Judges to answer particular public ends; while in the enactment of others, including all the laws of 1792, the Secretary of the Territory discharged, under the authority of an act of Congress, the functions of the Governor. The earliest laws, as has been already stated, were published at Marietta. Of the remainder, a few were published at Vincennes, and the rest at Cincinnati.

In the year 1789, the first Congress passed an act recognizing the binding force of the ordinance of 1787, and adapting its provisions to the Federal Constitution. This act provided that the communications directed in the ordinance to be made to Congress or its officers, by the Governor, should thenceforth be made to the President, and that the authority to appoint with the consent of the Senate, and commission officers, before that time appointed and commissioned by Congress, should likewise be vested in that officer. It also gave the Territorial Secretary the power already mentioned, of acting in certain cases, in the place of the Governor. In 1792, Congress passed another act giving to the Governor and Judges authority to repeal, at their discretion, the laws by

them made; and enabling a single Judge of the general court, in the absence of his brethren, to hold the terms.

At this time the Judges appointed by the National Executive constituted the Supreme Court of the Territory. They were commissioned during good behavior; and their judicial jurisdiction extended over the whole region northwest of the Ohio. The court, thus constituted, was fixed at no certain place, and its process, civil and criminal, was returnable wheresoever it might be in the Territory. Inferior to this court were the County Courts of Common Pleas, and the General Quarter Sessions of the Peace. The former consisted of any number of Judges, not less than three nor more than seven, and had a general common-law jurisdiction, concurrent, in the respective counties, with that of the Supreme Court; the latter consisted of a number of Justices for each county, to be determined by the Governor, who were required to hold three terms in every year, and had a limited criminal jurisdiction. Single Judges of the Common Pleas, and single Justices of the Quarter Sessions were also clothed with certain civil and criminal powers to be exercised out of court. Besides these courts, each county had a Judge of Probate, clothed with the ordinary jurisdiction of a Probate Court.

Such was the original constitution of courts and distribution of judicial power in the Northwestern Territory. The expenses of the system were defrayed in part by the National Government, and in part by assessments upon the counties, but principally by fees, which were payable to every officer concerned in the administration of justice, from the Judges of the General Court downward.

In 1795 the Governor and Judges undertook to revise the Territorial laws, and to establish a complete system of statutory jurisprudence, by adoptions from the laws of the original States, in strict conformity to the provisions of the ordinance. For this purpose they assembled at Cincinnati in June, and continued in session until the latter part of August. The judiciary system underwent some changes. The General Court was fixed at Cincinnati and Marietta, and a Circuit Court was established with power to try in the several counties, issues in fact depending before the superior tribunal, where alone causes could be finally decided. Orphans' Courts, too, were established, with jurisdiction analogous to but more extensive than that of a Judge of Probate. Laws were also adopted to regulate judgments and executions, for limitation of actions, for the distribution of intestate estates, and for many other general purposes. Finally, as if with a view to create some great reservoir, from which, whatever principles and powers had been omitted in the particular acts, might be drawn according to the exigency of circumstances, the Governor and Judges adopted a law, providing that the common law of England and all general statutes in aid of the common law, prior to the fourth year of James I, should be in full force within the Territory. The law thus adopted was an act of the Virginia Legislature, passed before the Declaration of Independence, when Virginia was

yet a British colony, and at the time of its adoption had been repealed so far as it related to the English statutes.

The other laws of 1795 were principally derived from the statute book of Pennsylvania. The system thus adopted was not without many imperfections and blemishes, but it may be doubted whether any colony, at so early a period after its first establishment, ever had one so good.

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And how gratifying is the retrospect, how cheering the prospect which even this sketch, brief and partial as it is, presents! On a surface covered less than half a century ago by the trees of the primeval forest, a State has grown up from Colonial infancy to freedom, independence and strength. But thirty years have elapsed since that State, with hardly sixty thousand inhabitants, was admitted into the American Union. Of the twenty-four States which form that Union, she is now the fourth in respect to population. In other respects her rank is even higher. Already her resources have been adequate, not only to the expense of government and instruction, but to the construction of long lines of canals. Her enterprise has realized the startling prediction of the poet, who, in 1787, when Ohio was yet a wilderness, foretold the future connection of the Hudson with the Ohio.

And these results are attributable mainly to her institutions. The spirit of the ordinance of 1787 pervades them all. Who can estimate the benefits which have flowed from the interdiction by that instrument of slavery and of legislative interference with private contracts? One consequence is, that the soil of Ohio bears up none but freemen; another, that a stern and honorable regard to private rights and public morals characterizes her legislation. There is hardly a page in the statute book of which her sons need be ashamed. The great doctrine of equal rights is everywhere recognized in her constitution and her laws. Almost every father of a family in this State has a freehold interest in the soil, but this interest is not necessary to entitle him to a voice in the concerns of government. Every man may vote; every man is eligible to any office. And this unlimited extension of the elective franchise, so far from producing any evil, has ever constituted a safe and sufficient check upon injurious legislation. Other causes of her prosperity may be found in her fertile soil, in her felicitous position, and especially in her connection with the union of the States. All these springs of growth and advancement are permanent, and upon a most gratifying prospect of the future. They promise an advance in population, wealth, intelligence and moral worth as permanent as the existence of the State itself. They promise to the future citizens of Ohio the blessings of good government, wise legislation and universal instruction. More than all, they are pledges that in all future, as in all past circumstances, Ohio will cleave fast to the national constitution and the national Union, and that her growing energies will on no occasion, be more willingly or powerfully put forth, than in the support and maintenance of both in unimpaired vigor and strength."

INFLUENCE OF THE ORDINANCE OF 1787.

The passage of this ordinance, since known as the "Ordinance of 1787," was immediately followed by an application to the Government, by John Cleves Symmes, of New Jersey, in behalf of the country, between the Miamis, and a contract was concluded the following year. The Ohio Company were exceedingly energetic in inaugurating settlements. Gen. Putman, with a party of forty-seven men, set out on an exploring expedition, accompanied by six boat builders. On the 1st of January, 1788, twenty-six surveyors followed, from Hartford, Conn. They arrived in Ohio on the 7th of April, 1788, and their active energy founded the permanent beginning of this great Western State. When we review the dangerous experiments that have been made, in this land west of the Alleghanies, the horrors which had overwhelmed every attempt, we can faintly realize the stalwart courage that sent these men on their way, and sustained them in their pioneer hardships. With characteristic vigor, they began their little town. Enthusiastic and happy, they did not rest from their toilsome march over the old Indian roads, but kept busily at work to establish an oasis in this wide expanse of wilderness, before they should take necessary ease to recuperate their strength.

The wise men met on the 2d of May, and the little town was named Marietta. Situated as it was, in the midst of danger, they had used precaution to build and equip a fortified square, which was designated Campus Martius; Square No. 19 was Capitolium, and Square No. 61 was Cecelia, and the main street was Sacra Via.

Marietta was especially fortunate in her actual "first families." Ten of the forty-eight men had received a thorough college education; the remaining were individuals of sterling merit, honorable, and several had already attained reputations for superior excellence of abilities. Patriotic and brave, the settlement certainly possessed a foundation that promised well for the future. The following 4th of July was an auspicious event, and the Hon. James M. Varnum was the eloquent orator of the occason.

The opening of the court, on the 2d of September, was a solemn ceremonial, the High Sheriff leading with drawn sword, followed by citizens, with an escort of officers from Fort Harmar, the members of the bar, the Governor and Clergymen, the Judges of the Court of Common Pleas—Gen. Rufus Putman and Benjamin Tupper—all these constituted an imposing spectacle, as they progressed over a path which had been cut through the forest to Campus Martius Hall, the edifice of law and order.

The Judges took their seats, a prayer was offered by the Rev. Dr. Cutler, and immediately the Sheriff, Col. Ebenezer Sprout, proclaimed the response, and the court of impartial justice was convened.

This ceremonial was, perhaps, made all the more impressive by the presence of several powerful Indian chiefs, who had journeyed to Marietta for the purpose of making a treaty.

The settlement now increased rapidly, new cabins were erected constantly. On the 17th of December, a society event occurred, in the form of a grand ball, fifteen ladies being present.

John Cleves Symmes had contracted for 2,000,000 acres of land, and succeeded in obtaining his grant, but circumstances prevented him from meeting his part of the obligations, and the specification was reduced to 1,000,000. After vain attempt to make his payments, a settlement was finally effected for 248,540 acres, and Symmes was prepared to dispose of clear titles to new-comers. In 1788, a town was established within the boundaries of his grant, at the mouth of the little Miami, known as Columbia, and in the early part of 1787 another was formed opposite the mouth of the Licking River, by name Losantiville, analyzed by a frontier scholar—*ville*, the town; *anti*, opposite to; *os*, the mouth of; *L*, Licking.

Judge Symmes had projected building his main town at North Bend. This plan was frustrated by reason of Ensign Luce—who had been commissioned by Gen. Harmar to erect a fort—deciding that North Bend was not suitable for the purpose. He selected Losantiville for the purpose, and Fort Washington was the result. In 1790, Gov. St. Clair was called to inspect the settlement, and proceeded to organize Hamilton County, at the same time calling the town *Cincinnati*.

It will be remembered that Connecticut ceded most of her western lands to General Government, retaining, however, a minor portion. As the settlements began to increase on the "Virginia Reserve" and between the Scioto and Miami Rivers, all those holding claims were not disposed to part with them, while others were anxious to secure grants for the purpose of speculation, rather than the advancement of civilization. The Scioto Company was a questionable adherent of the Ohio Company, and began operations, which resulted well, whatever their purpose may have been.

Gen. Putnam cleared the land and directed the building of 100 dwellings and six block-houses. During 1791, the colony arrived, consisting of 500 persons. Only ten of these were tillers of the soil. Viscount Malartie ventured into the wilderness, but instead of settling, joined Gen. St. Clair's army, and was ultimately his aid-de-camp. Indian conquests were not to his taste, and he soon returned to France. This new colony was essentially French, and its location was Gallia County. The name "Gallipolis" was selected.

These settlers, being unaccustomed to severe toil, and disinclined to learn its hard lesson, soon became demoralized, through deprivation and absolute want. Congress came to their aid with a land grant of 24,000 acres, but few of them cared to enter claims, and soon all traces of the old town were lost, and its inhabitants scattered.

Gen. St. Clair having become unpopular, through repeated failures in Indian campaigns, and Gen. Anthony Wayne having wintered at Fort Washington, the spring of 1793 was opened by a march of the army, well disciplined and led by "Mad Anthony," on a campaign that must crush the rapidly increasing depredations of the Indians, notwithstanding which these new settlements had been made. All winter, Gen. Wayne had dispatched scouts, spies and hardy frontiersmen on errands of discovery, and his plans were, therefore, practically matured. His army cut its way through the forests, gathering horses, provisions, etc., as they marched, and finally came nearly up to the enemy before discovery. They again returned to Fort Washington, as the Commander-in-Chief, under the order of the Executive, had proclaimed inaction until the Northern or British Commissioners and Indians should convene and discuss the situation and prospects. Gen. Wayne, meantime, drilled his men at "Hobson's Choice," a place near Fort Washington.

The Commissioners came from Detroit, and assembled at Capt. Matthew Elliot's house, at the mouth of the Detroit River.

A meeting was called at Sandusky, and twenty Indian representatives were present, to argue the grounds of a treaty. Simon Girty acted as interpreter, and has been vehemently accused of unfaithfulness in this trust, since he did not advocate the adjustment of matters on any grounds. The Indians reiterated their rights and wrongs, and offered to receive the half of the purchase money, provided the actual settlers would accept it as the price of the land, move away, and leave the original owners the proud possessors of their lands. The Government would then expend less money than they would have done in a full Indian purchase, or a long and cruel war. This being out of the question and rejected, a decided specification was made that the Ohio boundary was to be obliterated, and a new one adopted, that encompassed a mere fraction of territory. This was also rejected, The Indians indignantly bade the Americans to go back to their father, and they would return to their tribes.

The council was terminated in confusion. It is highly probable that some settlement might have been made, had it not been for English influence which instigated the savages, in the hope of ultimately making conquests for themselves. The commander at Detroit evinced great uneasiness whenever there was a shadow of an opportunity for a peaceful understanding.

On Christmas Day, 1793, a detachment of the army encamped on the identical ground made memorable by St. Clair's horrible defeat. A reward was offered for every human skull that was found, and 600 were gathered. The bones of the victims were removed from the spot where they built Fort Recovery. This point was left in charge of Alexander Gibson.

Early in the year 1794, Lord Dorchester addressed the Commissioners in behalf of the English. Even at this time, Gen. Wayne, to avoid the terrors of a great war, again made overtures of peace, dispatching Freeman, Trueman and Hardin, all initiated in savage tactics, on errands of mercy—and the three men

were inhumanly murdered. The English went so far as to order Gov. Simcoe to erect a fort, in April, 1794, on the Rapids of the Maumee, thus rousing the Indians by a bold proof that they had espoused their cause. In May, the Spanish, who were ever jealous of colonial encroachments, were willing to aid in a general raid against the Americans.

In June, a scouting party from Fort Recovery, fell into an Indian ambush and suffered severely, their foes following them to the very entrance. The siege continued for two days. It was plainly evident that white men augmented the Indian force; ounce balls and buck-shot surely came from their rifles. Again, the Indians immediately began a search beneath the logs where pieces of artillery were hidden during the great battle of St. Clair, but fortunately, Fort Recovery had the use of them and they accomplished much.

On July 26, Scott joined Wayne at Greenville, with 1,600 mounted Kentuckians, and on the 28th, the legion took up its line of deadly march. Halting at Girty's Town, they built Fort Mary's, later on Fort Adams. Throwing the enemy off their guard by feints and counter-marching, the troops surprised the Indians, and without the slightest resistance took possession of their villages at the confluence of the Auglaize and Maumee. They found provision in abundance, and tarried a week building Fort Defiance.

Again Gen. Wayne would have made terms of peace, on the principle of the Government to arrest bloodshed, but the Indians were rendered cruelly intent on war by an addition of a body of British militia from Detroit, and by regulars stationed at a fort they had built on the left bank of the river, below the rapids, called Fort Miami. The "Fallen Timber" ground was selected as the field for a battle by the savages, in the expectation that the trees cast down by a tornado and there remaining, would seriously impede American progress.

August 15th, Wayne marched down the river, and at Roche de Boeuf, erected a fortification for their stores and luggage, naming it "Fort Deposit." On the 20th, the American army began the attack. Maj. Price and Maj. Gen. Scott were heroic in their assistance, and after a sharp, deadly conflict, the enemy was routed, fleeing in confusion, and leaving their dead and wounded strewn thickly over the field. The savages were pressed to the front always, and when the carnage was painful, the British troops not engaged looked on coolly from the fort and offered no assistance, aiding their own, however, when possible. Gen. Wayne being an ardent soldier, was apt to forget his position, and impetuously place himself constantly in danger. Lieut. Harrison is reported to have requested the General not to forget to give him field orders, in his own participation in the battle, and to have received the reply that *the standing order was always to charge bayonets.*

Notwithstanding the treaty of 1783, and the fact that the British were trespassing, they encroached upon the Ohio soil, and essayed to vindicate their action by discarding American claims and recognizing the Indian rights, whereby they might seek their own colonization and make treaties.

Maj. Campbell was in command at Fort Miami, and when he saw the savages being cut down almost mercilessly, he not only refrained from offering aid, but when, in their desperate retreat, they attempted to enter the fort for protection, he ordered the doors closed in their faces.

On the following day, Campbell sent a message to Wayne, demanding a reason for hostile action, adding that Great Britain was not now at war with the United States. He received a characteristic reply.

During the Revolution, Detroit was an important British point, and the Maumee was its outlet. Therefore, the English clung tenaciously to this possession, giving, as it did, the advantage of the great fur trade. The English Government evidently regretted ceding so much of her territory in the West, and were searching for an excuse to quarrel and attempt to regain at least a part of what they had lost. Their policy was to sustain the bitter hatred between the Indians and the Americans.

The settlement of the Maumee Valley had been rapid, but the very name was an agony of remembrance of frightful massacres and atrocities. Col. McKee, the British Indian agent, and his assistant, Capt. Elliott, were from Pennsylvania, but being Tories, they had assimilated with the Indians. They joined the Shawnee tribe and married Indian wives, and made their fortunes thereby, through British appointments to secure the savage interests. The Indians were directly served by McKee and Elliott, with ammunition and supplies, during the Wayne conflict.

Several skirmishes ensued, but severe weather approaching, the troops moved for quarters, and on the 14th day of September, they attacked the Miami villages, captured them with provisions and stores, and erected a fort, leaving it in charge of Lieut. Col. Hamtramck. With cheers and rifle-shooting, this post was named *Fort Wayne*. The main army marched into Greenville and went into winter quarters.

Wayne had achieved a brilliant victory, but his success did not overcome his practical reasoning, and he was unwilling to subject his men to a severe winter's campaign unless necessity was peremptory.

Gov. Simcoe, Col. McKee and a few of the most savage Indian chiefs attempted to rally the Indians for a new attack. Gov. Simcoe, of Detroit, was aware that the mounted volunteers under Wayne had been allowed to return home, and that the term of service of a portion of the "Legion" was about to expire.

The British and Indians held a conference, but the latter were weary with fighting for the glory of the Great Father at Detroit, and did not enter into the plan. The winter proved most poverty stricken to them, the English failing to supply them, and their crops and sustenance having been destroyed by Wayne. They were then fully prepared to listen to the faintest signal from Wayne to conciliate affairs, and the Wyandots and Delawares were the first to confer with him on the subject. Their position was exposed and they had suffered severely.

They soon influenced other tribes to consider the question. As a mass, they were convinced of their inability to overcome the Americans, and had become impatient and disgusted with the duplicity of their British friends, who had not hesitated to sacrifice them in every instance, and who deserted them in their hour of distress. United, they sued for peace. Terms were made, and about the 1st of August, the famous Greenville treaty was ratified and established, and the old Indian war in Ohio terminated.

The Wyandots, Delawares, Shawnees, Chippewas, Ottawas, Pottawatomies, Miamis, Eel Rivers, Weas, Kickapoos, Piankeshaws and Kaskaskias were thus conciliated. The old Indian boundary line, settled upon at the Fort McIntosh treaty, was retained, and the southwestern line was prolonged from old Fort Recovery, southwest of the Ohio River.

"The general boundary lines between the lands of the United States and the lands of the said Indian tribes shall begin at the mouth of the Cuyahoga River, and thence run up the same to the portage between that and the Tuscarawas Branch of the Muskingum; thence down that branch to the crossing-place above Fort Laurens; thence westerly to a fork of that branch of the Great Miami River (running into the Ohio), at or near which fork stood Laramie's store—Mary's River, which is a branch of the Miami that runs into Lake Erie; thence a westerly course to Fort Recovery, which stands on a branch of the Wabash; thence southwesterly on a direct line to the Ohio, so as to intersect that river opposite the mouth of the Kentucky or Cuttawa River."

This boundary line has, ever since this memorable treaty, been a prominent landmark, and may now be traced as the southern boundary line of Stark, Ashland, Richland and Marion Counties, and the northern line, in part, of Tuscarawas and Knox. Old Fort Recovery was located in Mercer, near the Indiana line. Laramie's store was in Shelby.

Within the Indian Reservation, the United States held sixteen distinct sections of land, for the purpose of military posts, so arranged that the Government had full right of way north and west.

The "Joy treaty" between England and the United States was ratified early in 1796, and the British were obliged to vacate Detroit and Fort Miami, and recall the fact that they had no claim or right to either points. Gen. Wayne received them, and accompanied by Gov. St. Clair, proceeded to Detroit. Here the latter laid out a county, calling it Wayne, and designated Detroit as its seat of justice. This was the fifth county in the Northwest Territory, north of the Ohio River. Washington County, with Marietta as a seat of justice, was first established; next Hamilton, with Cincinnati as a county seat. Wayne County was organized in 1796, and included about twenty-six of the present counties in the northwest part of the State, covering about a quarter of its area, besides parts of Indiana and Michigan.

In other parts of the State, the population was rapidly increasing. In May, 1795, the Legislature authorized a committee to institute measures for the

disposal of their Western lands. The Virginia and Connecticut Reservations required some action on the part of Government, inasmuch as ceding a portion and re-selling had in a measure disturbed free titles. Fifty-six persons negotiated and purchased lands, receiving quit-claim titles and entire rights. They re-sold to John Morgan and John Caldwell and Jonathan Bruce, in trust. Thus 3,000,000 acres were prepared for settlement. Upon the quit-claim deeds of these representatives, the full title of lands included within the old Western Reserve rests.

Judge Symmes began his active operations in 1796, and by the close of 1797 all lands east of the Cuyahoga were laid out in townships, five miles square. The agent of the Connecticut Land Company was Gen. Moses Cleveland, and in his honor the leading city in the Reserve was named. Some townships were retained for private sale, and others were disposed of by lottery, in 1798.

Wayne's treaty led to the formation of Dayton, and the peopling of that section. A difficulty arose regarding the original Symmes grant and its modification. Symmes had sold land titles, in good faith, beyond his vested power, and Congress was now called upon to adjust these claims and titles. Seventeen days after the Wayne or Greenville treaty, St. Clair, Wilkinson, Dayton and Ludlow contracted with Symmes for seven and eight ranges, between the Mad and Little Miami Rivers. November 4, 1795, Mr. Ludlow laid out Dayton.

During the years 1790 and 1795, the Governor and Supreme Judges of the Northwest Territory had published sixty-four statutes. Thirty-four of these were ratified at Cincinnati, for the purpose of forming a complete statutory. It was termed the "Maxwell Code."

Mr. Nathaniel Massie founded a town on the Scioto, which was called Chillicothe. The Iroquois treaty had previously invited settlement, and embryo towns had begun as early as 1769, under the protection of the Connecticut Company. A land company was organized in Hartford, Conn., in 1795, sending out forty-three surveyors to divide the townships of that part of the Western Reserve, east of the Cuyahoga, five miles square. The first resident of the town of Cleveland was Mr. Job Stiles and family, and Mrs. Stiles was the mother of the first white child born on the Reserve. Some other parts of the territory progressed more rapidly in population.

Along the Muskingum, Scioto and Miami, towns began to spring up, which might perhaps better be termed farming settlements.

Cincinnati was increasing, and in 1796, had reached 100 cabins, 15 frame houses and 600 persons, with prospects for a firm future.

The Virginia Military Land District was between the Little Miami and Scioto, and was rapidly increasing in population.

Mr. Massie was unceasing in his efforts to advance the West, and laid out Manchester, offering inducements that could not fail to attract settlers.

Ebenezer Zane procured a grant in consideration of opening a bridle path from the Ohio River at Wheeling, over the country via Chillicothe, to Limestone,

in Kentucky. The year following, the United States mail was taken over this route.

The comparatively tranquil condition of the country and the inducements it had to offer encouraged a rapid settlement of the Territory. A prominent feature of the early growth of Ohio was the general prevalence of reliable, stanch principle. The people were of the good colonial stock.

In 1800, Chillicothe was denominated the seat of the Territorial government, and the first stone edifice in the State was begun in this town, soon after this appointment. About this time, a serious difficulty suddenly occurred to those individuals who had taken lands on the Western Reserve of Connecticut. That Eastern power had, it is true, ceded a part of her claim to the General Government, and had stipulated for the sale of certain other tracts. At the same time, the State had not signed away her jurisdiction over some sections of her claim, and those unfortunate people in and about Dayton found themselves without any government upon which they might depend in a case of emergency. The matter was, accordingly, presented to the Territorial government, which interceded with the Eastern State, and, sanctioned by the Assembly at Congress, Connecticut relinquished her jurisdiction in 1800.

Cleveland was an important point, and was growing in the mean time. However, it had suffered exceedingly from the ravages of fever and ague. For a period of two months, there was not an individual, but a boy thirteen years of age, able to procure food for the others. Flour was out of all rational consideration, and the meal upon which they lived was pounded by hand. In 1799, Williams and Myatt erected a grist-mill at the falls, near Newbury.

A startling agitation occurred in 1801, which in these days would cause but a ripple in the political sea, but happening during a time when legislative dignity and state authority were regarded with reverential awe, it created the most intense feeling. Great indignation was openly expressed.

The Governor and several legislators felt that they had been insulted in the performance of their respective duties, at Chillicothe, while the Assembly was in session in 1801. No measures being taken by the authorities at the capital to protect the Executive, a law was passed removing the seat of government to Cincinnati.

This circumstance led to a general consideration of the advantages of a State government, and a popular desire was expressed for a change in this respect. Gov. St. Clair had fallen into disfavor through his failure as a military leader and his failures in the Indian campaigns, and from his assuming powers which were not vested in him, especially the subdivision of counties. He was also identified with the Federal party, which was not popular in Ohio. The opposition was strong in the Assembly, but was in the minority in the House of Representatives. The boundary question was agitated at the same time. The intention was to thus effect the limits of Ohio that a State government would necessarily have to be postponed. Against this measure, Tiffin, Worthington,

Langham, Darlington, Massie, Dunlavy and Morrow strenuously objected. After considerable discussion, Thomas Worthington obtained leave of absence from the session, and journeyed to Washington in behalf of a State government. It was obvious that the Territory, under the ordinance, was not entitled to a change. Massie suggested the feasibility of appointing a committee to address Congress on the subject. This the House refused to pass.

An effort was then made to take a census, but any action on this subject was postponed until the next session.

During all this ineffectual struggle, Worthington was doing his best in Washington, and succeeded so well that on March 4, a report was made to the House in favor of the State government. This report was made on a basis that the census, in 1800, summed up over 45,000 for Ohio.

April 30, Congress passed a law carrying into effect the views expressed on this subject. A convention met on November 1. Its members were generally Jeffersonian in their views. Gov. St. Clair proposed to address them as their chief executive magistrate. Several members resolutely opposed this action, insisting upon a vote, which, through courtesy and not a sense of right, resulted in permitting him to address them. He advised the postponement of the State government until the original eastern portion of the State was sufficiently populated to demand this right. Only one, out of thirty-three, voted to sustain the Governor in these views.

The convention agreed to the views of Congress. November 29, the agreement was ratified and signed, as was the constitution of the State of Ohio. The General Assembly was ordered to convene the first Tuesday of March, 1803.

This was carried into effect. A constitution was framed for the new State, adhering to the Ordinance of 1787. The rights and duties of citizens were plainly set forth, and general business was transacted. The new State constitution was signed by :

Edward Tiffin, President and Representative from Ross County.

Adams County—Joseph Darlington, Israel Donalson, Thomas Vinker.

Belmont County—James Caldwell and Elijah Woods.

Clermont County—Philip Gatch and James Sargent.

Fairfield County—Henry Abrams and Emanuel Carpenter.

Hamilton County—John W. Brown, Charles Willing Byrd, Francis Dunlavy, William Goforth, John Gitchel, Jeremiah Morrow, John Paul, John Riley, John Smith and John Wilson.

Jefferson County—Rudolph Blair, George Humphry, John Milligan, Nathan Updegraff and Bezaleel Wells.

Ross County—Michael Baldwin, James Grubb, Nathaniel Massie and F. Worthington.

Washington County—Ephraim Cutler, Benjamin Ives Gilman, John McIntyre and Rufus Putnam.

Thomas Scott, Secretary.

The first Legislature of the State, under the new constitution, created eight new counties, viz., Gallia, Scioto, Franklin, Columbiana, Butler, Warren, Greene and Montgomery.

The first State officers were: Michael Baldwin, Speaker of the House; Nathaniel Massie, President of the Senate; William Creighton, Secretary of State; Col. Thomas Gibson, Auditor; William McFarland, Treasurer; Return J. Meigs, Jr., Samuel Huntington and William Sprigg, Judges of the Supreme Court; Francis Dunlavy, Willis Silliman and Calvin Pease, Judges of the District Court.

The General Assembly held a second session in December, at which time the militia law was revised, also giving aliens equal proprietary rights with native citizens. The revenue system was modified and improved. Acts authorizing the incorporation of townships were passed, and for the establishment of counties. Furthermore, Jacob White, Jeremiah Morrow and William Ludlow were authorized to locate a township for collegiate purposes, according to previous specified terms of Congress. The Symmes grant and the college specification collided materially, but the irregularity of the former was not to create any inconvenience for the latter. Mr. Symmes had in good faith marked off this township, but circumstances preventing the perfection of his plans, that lapsed with the others, and the original township was now entered by settlers.

Accordingly, thirty-six sections, west of the Great Miami, were selected, and are now held by the Miami University.

Gov. St. Clair, notwithstanding his unpopularity, was re-appointed.

Ohio was under a system of government which guaranteed the best improvements; her Legislature being composed of her best statesmen, and the laws passed having the general interest of the people embodied in them.

A bill was passed, appropriating the net proceeds of the land lying within said State, sold by Congress after the 20th day of June, 1802, after deducting all expenses incident to the same, to be applied to the laying-out of roads, leading from the navigable waters emptying into the Atlantic to the Ohio, to the said State, and through the same; such roads to be laid out under the authority of Congress, with the consent of the several States through which the road shall pass. In conformity with these provisions, steps were taken, in 1805, which resulted in the making of the Cumberland or National road.

Burr, at this time, began an organization for the ostensible purpose of making a settlement on the Wachita, but his party being armed and his plans not being frankly disclosed, an investigation proved that his real design was a mutinous revolt against Governmental powers, and to gratify his ambition by founding his own kingdom in Mexico, and defeating the Spanish. If success crowned his efforts, his ultimate victory was to rupture the Union by forcing the Western States to withdraw from their allegiance. By gaining an influence over the noble but misguided Blennerhasset, he established his headquarters on his island in the Ohio. The history of Burr's expedition is already well known.

The final capture by Gov. Tiffin, of ten boats loaded with stores, on the Muskingum, and four near Marietta, decided the fate of this scheme, and Burr was finally arrested and put on trial May 22, 1807.

The advancement of the settlement of the State was in no manner impeded, and towns sprang up, farms were laid out, and all other improvements inaugurated which tended to a permanent prosperity.

In 1808, Tecumseh left Greenville to join the Prophet on the banks of the Tippecanoe, a tributary of the Upper Wabash, on a tract of land granted herein by the Pottawatomies.

The Indians were virtually by treaty allowed but a small proportion of land within the boundaries of the State, and were maintaining peaceful attitudes toward the whites, with exceptional border depredations, which were settled by mutual understanding.

Although the United States had gained independence, and was treating with England as with other foreign powers, the British persisted in violating the national rights of the United States, impressing American seamen into the British service, seizing American vessels engaged with France in trade, and otherwise violating the rights of an independent nation, at peace with the British power.

The mission upon which Henry was sent by the British, to create disturbance between the States, and thus broken, to weaken the strength of the General Government, added fuel to the fire, and united indignation cried for war.

British agents again bargained with the Indians of the Wabash and Maumee Valleys, desiring them to inaugurate another war upon the western sections and to make a desperate attack upon the settlements south of the lakes. The British agent at Malden negotiated in rifles, powder, ball, merchandise, lead, blankets and shirts. The Indians were inspired again with the hope that the whites would be driven back, and that all the country north of the Ohio would again revert to them.

The Canadians in league with the English, gave the savages unlimited quantities of whisky, which naturally aroused their fierce natures to acts of violence and blood. It is highly probable that the use of liquor was the main cause of the deterioration of the best traits of the Indian character, after the Revolution. Again, many unscrupulous men upon the frontier did not hesitate to commit the most merciless crimes against the Indians, such was the prejudice against them, and the courts invariably failed to indict them for these atrocities. This error on the part of the Americans served to influence the savages against them.

At this time, the seats of justice were distant over a hundred miles each from the other, uninhabited tracts frequently extending between them which were absolute wildernesses. The routes were in many cases difficult and circuitous.

As early as 1808, there was a mail communication for the people on the Lower Maumee, many days elapsing between the arrivals and departures of

the same, however. Horace Gunn was the carrier. Benoni Adams brought the news from Cleveland to the same point, his trip requiring a fortnight. It must be remembered that this journey was mostly made on foot. The Black Swamp could not be traversed in any other manner.

THE WAR OF 1812.

The war of 1812 can be called a continuation of the Revolution, with all justice. Although rumors had reached Ohio, that active preparations were being made for general action, no official tidings had been sent to Hull, commander-in-chief of the Western forces.

The Secretary of War, instead of sending a special messenger directly to Hull, communicated with the post adjacent, depending upon a continuation of the news from that point. At the same time, advices were sent the British post at Malden and Detroit. Hull sent out a packet with official papers, stores, etc., the day previous to that on which the official intelligence arrived that an open rupture existed between the two powers, and this was of course captured.

The Western forces marched to Detroit and crossed over to Sandwich, preparatory to attacking Malden, a post most favorable for the transportation of stores, troops, etc. which was therefore considered valuable.

Peter Minard first gave the news to the settlers of the Maumee. He had heard from a Delaware chief, who assured him a general massacre was to take place in the valley. Maj. Spafford paid no heed to this "idle fear," until a few days thereafter a messenger came to his quarters, reporting a band of fifty Pottawatomies on the march to join the hostile tribes near Malden. They had plundered and burned Monclova, and had nearly reached the rapids.

The Major, with his family and settlers, immediately launched a barge on the river and were able to reach old Fort Miami just as the savages reached Maumee City. They could plainly witness the flames that devoured their old homes. They kept on their way in their miserable craft, until they reached Milan, where they learned that the entire country was in danger.

Although the Indians were defeated in the battle of Tippecanoe in the fall of 1811, they plotted vigorously with the English for the invasion of Ohio.

Gen. William Hull marched from the southwestern part of the State directly north, crossing the counties of Champaign, Logan, Hardin, Hancock and Wood, establishing military posts along the route and cutting a way through the wilderness of the unsettled portions. He crossed the Maumee on the 1st of July, and marched to Detroit.

Hull was evidently actuated in his succeeding disgraceful failures by two fears—lack of confidence in the ability of his troops, and the belief that they might desert him in action. He proclaimed freedom, and a necessity of submitting to the Canadians under existing circumstances. He held out inducements to the British regulars to desert their cause and essayed to pacify the savages, but he accomplished nothing beyond jeopardizing the American cause

and disgracing his army. His men became restless. Col. Miller and Col. Cass were delighted when detailed on scouting expeditions, and did not hesitate to attack advancing squads of the enemy. At last, an attack was made on the Niagara frontier, and Hull speedily abandoned his project and collected his forces at Detroit.

Meantime, Col. Proctor had reached Malden, and quickly perceiving the advantage of a post at that point, whereby he could cut off supplies and starve Hull into subjection, he massed his forces about this section, captured Van Horn and his two hundred men, and withstood the attack of Miller, although he gained nothing by so doing. Again Hull displayed his weakness by recalling his forces from further molestations.

Gen. Brock, however, reached Malden on the 13th of August, 1812, and began war preparations.

Gen. Dearborn placed a force on the Niagara frontier, but an armistice was made with the British. Hull dispatched a third party under McArthur, to open communications to the Raisin River.

Gen. Brock appeared at Sandwich and began to erect batteries, which Hull would not allow to be molested. The result was, that on the 26th of August Detroit was surrendered to the enemy, and not a blow had been struck in its defense.

By this dastardly act, 1,400 brave men who had not been permitted to make a single effort to sustain the American cause, were surrendered to 300 English regulars, 400 Canadians and their Indian allies. Gen. Hull was, in consequence of this series of "mistakes," accused of treason and cowardice, and convicted of the latter. By the middle of August, the British had gained the control over most of the Northwestern Territory.

The appointment of William Henry Harrison to the position of commander in chief of the Western forces, was most opportune. He speedily raised a vigorous army, and advanced by three routes to the foot of the rapids.

Gen. Harrison commanded the right wing, and marched by the way of Upper Sandusky, where he located his depot of supplies. Gen. Tupper commanded the center, Fort McArthur, in Hardin County, being his base, while Gen. Winchester marched from Fort Defiance down the Maumee to the foot of the rapids.

A large force of British and Indians moved up the left bank of the Maumee toward Fort Wayne, and Gen. Harrison, to intercept them, marched to the confluence of the Auglaize with the Maumee.

Harrison was aware that the enemy would be also hemmed in by Winchester. The weather was rainy, and the prospects were that a most unfortunate season was to follow the expected engagements. Harrison heard that Winchester had reached Fort Defiance, and that the Indians and British were retreating down the Maumee. He followed, and marched to Winchester's camp, where he arrived in season to quell a mutiny under command of Col. Allen, of the Kentucky troops.

In January, 1813, Winchester had reached the rapids, where he received tidings that Frenchtown was menaced and exposed. Without orders, he sent a party to the rescue, which defeated the enemy. The weather was intensely cold, and the company lay within eighteen miles of Malden, where the enemy was collected in full force, consequently re-enforcements must be dispatched immediately or the town again left to its fate.

Winchester then marched with a force of 259 men, and upon arriving at nightfall, insisted upon remaining on open ground, although warned repeatedly that this would be a most dangerous experiment.

In the morning, he was surprised by the enemy, massed directly before him, with a battery within three hundred yards of his camp, and a shower of bombs, balls and grape-shot falling among his exposed troops, and the yells of Indians reminding him of his fatal error. Lewis, who led the party out in the beginning and had apprehended the danger, bravely defended himself behind garden pickets. Winchester was defeated on the 22d of January, 1813, and the Indians were permitted to massacre the prisoners and the settlers.

Harrison fell back to the foot of the rapids. On the 1st of February, he began the construction of Fort Meigs. On the 27th of April, Proctor and Tecumseh attacked this fort, and laid siege with the full expectation of success. The stipulation was that Gen. Harrison was to be delivered to Tecumseh. While the balls and bombs were making havoc with the fort, the Indians were climbing trees and pouring a galling fire down upon the troops. Gen. Proctor invited Harrison to surrender, which was politely declined, with the assurance that the British General would have the opportunity to distinguish himself as a soldier before such a proceeding was enacted.

Gen. Clay was descending the Maumee with 1,200 Kentuckians in flat boats. Orders went from Harrison that 800 men should land on the left bank, take and spike the British cannon, and then to enter the fort, from which soldiers were to issue to assist the re-enforcements.

Capt. Hamilton was to pilot Gen. Clay to the fort, cutting their way through. All succeeded, Col. Dudley taking the batteries and spiking the cannon. But his men, too much elated by their success, against orders, and against the repeated expostulations of Col. Dudley, insisted on pursuing the Indians. Col. Dudley would not desert them. This act proved their ruin. By a decoy, they were led into a defile which proved an ambush, and the men found themselves surrounded by savages, without means of escape.

A most frightful massacre began, and every man would have fallen had not Tecumseh sternly forbidden the cowardly carnage. One of his principal chiefs ignored this order, and the next instant the great warrior buried his hatchet in his head. The brave Col. Dudley was, however, tomahawked and scalped.

There were no immediate signs that the fort would be surrendered, and the siege was raised on the 9th of May. It was renewed on the 20th of July, and abandoned a few days later. The enemy decided this stronghold was invulnerable.

On the 1st of August, the enemy proceeded to Fort Stevenson, at Lower Sandusky, garrisoned by 150 men under Maj. Croghan. The fort had the use of but one piece of cannon. The enemy with Tecumseh's Indians numbered 3,300 strong, with six pieces of cannon.

Gen. Proctor again tendered the offer to surrender, adding that a refusal would only bring about a useless resistance, and a massacre by the Indians. The reply was, that before the fort went over to the British, not an American would be left to be massacred, as they should hold out to the last man. Proctor opened fire. The first movement was an assault upon the northwest angle of the fort, as if to make a breach and thus carry the works. The commandant strengthened that point by bags of sand, and during the night stealthily placing his one cannon in a concealed position, he filled it with slugs.

The following day, the fire again swept the northwest corner, and, evening approaching, a column of 350 men swept up within twenty yards of the walls. They were met by the musketry, which had little effect, and the ditch was soon filled with men. The next instant the hidden cannon, so placed as to sweep the ditch, suddenly began action, and the surprised assailants quickly recoiled, and the fort was saved, with the loss of only one man.

The next morning, the enemy had disappeared, evidently in haste, as guns, clothing and stores were left behind. They had lost over one hundred and fifty men by this useless attempt. Croghan had previously received orders to evacuate the fort from Gen. Harrison, and his determination to hold the position merited Harrison's reprimand and remand of commission. Such was the severity of military law. However, the rank of Colonel was immediately conferred upon him by the President, for his gallantry. The ladies of Chillicothe presented him with an elegant testimonial in the shape of a sword.

It was decided to make a naval warfare effectual in the recovery of the Northwestern Territory, and accordingly vessel-building began under Commodore Perry's supervision.

The British looked upon this proceeding with derision, fully intending to use these boats for their own purpose. They publicly proclaimed their intention.

By the 1st of August, 1813, Commodore Perry set sail a flotilla, the Lawrence and the Niagara, of twenty guns each, with smaller vessels following. Some difficulty was encountered in launching the larger vessels, on account of the shallowness of the water.

Perry's first destination was Put-in-Bay, thirty miles from Malden, where the British fleet lay under the guns of the fort. On the 10th of September, the British fleet—exceeding the American by ten guns—under Commodore Barclay, appeared off Put-in-Bay, distant about ten miles. Perry immediately set sail. The wind shifting, the Americans had the advantage.

Perry hoisted his battle-flag and a general preparation was made for the conflict. An ominous silence settled over all as the fleets approached. A bugle sounded on the enemy's ship Detroit, and a furious fire was opened upon

the Lawrence. The frightful and desperate battle that ensued is so familiar that it is not necessary for us to repeat its details. It forever remains in history as a prominent, desperate struggle that turned the tide most decisively in favor of the Americans. Hand to hand, for three hours, this furious struggle surged, resulting in a pronounced victory for the Americans.

Commodore Perry immediately requested parole for his severely wounded antagonist, Commodore Barclay. Capt. Elliott was at this engagement highly commended by Perry for his bravery.

Gen. Harrison now made preparations to follow Proctor, and reached Malden on the 27th of September.

Proctor had retreated to Sandwich, and thence Harrison followed him, overtaking the enemy on the 9th of October, on the bank of the Thames. An engagement ensued, which was not particularly marked in its events, but which practically terminated the war in the Northwest.

Tecumseh fell during this battle, and his death disheartened the savages to such an extent that they were willing to make terms of peace. Accordingly a treaty was concluded on the 22d of July, 1814, with the Wyandots, Delawares, Shawnees, Senecas and Miamis, the tribes engaged in hostilities.

Again Ohio was able to turn her attention to the improvements within her own boundaries. Weary and disabled though she was, her ambition and energy were unimpaired. The struggle had been severe, but a grand reward had been won, and peace and independence belonged to these sturdy, earnest, pioneers.

In 1815, a town was founded near Fort Meigs, and, in 1816, Gen. John E. Hunt and Judge Robert A. Forsythe located at Maumee.

BANKING.

Up to the year 1817, Ohio had no banking system, and on the 28th of January of that year, the United States Bank opened a branch at Cincinnati, and yet another during the following October at Chillicothe. These branches found a large amount of business to transact, and while being of assistance in various ways to the State, also received a fine revenue themselves. The State therefore resolved upon a tax levy, and, in 1819, the branches were to pay $50,000 each, and the State Auditor was authorized to issue his warrant for the collection of the same.

The bank branches demurred, but the State was decided, and the banks accordingly filed a bill in chancery, in the United States Circuit Court, setting forth reasons whereby their prayer that Ralph Osborn, State Auditor, should be restrained from making such collection, should be seriously considered.

Osborn being counseled not to appear on the day designated in the writ, an injunction was obtained, with the security given in the shape of bonds from the bank, to the amount of $100,000. On the 14th of September, the bank sent a commissioner to Columbus, who served upon the Auditor a copy of the petition

for the injunction, and a subpœna to make an appearance before the court on the first Monday in the following January. Osborn submitted both the petition and the injunction to the Secretary of State, with his warrant for collecting the tax. Legally, the matter was somewhat complicated.

The Auditor desired the Secretary of State to take legal advice, and if the papers did not actually amount to an injunction, to give orders for the execution of the warrant.

The decision was that the papers did not equal a valid injunction. The State writ for collection was therefore given over to John L. Harper, with directions to enter the banking-house and demand the payment of the tax. In case of a refusal, the vault was to be entered and a levy made upon the amount required. No violence was to be used, and if force was used to deter the act, the same was to be reported to a proper magistrate and an affidavit made to that fact.

On September 17, Mr. Harper went about his errand, taking with him T. Orr and J. MacCollister. After securing access to the vault, a demand was made for the payment of the tax. This was promptly refused, and a notice given of the granting of the injunction. This was disregarded, and the officer seized $98,000 in gold, silver and notes. This was placed in charge of the State Treasurer, Mr. H. M. Curry.

The officers were arrested and imprisoned by the United States Circuit Court, and the money returned to the bank. The case was reviewed by the Supreme Court, and the measures of the Circuit Court were sustained. The State, therefore, submitted. In the mean time, the Legislature had prepared and passed a resolution, as follows:

Resolved, by the General Assembly of the State of Ohio, That in respect to the powers of the Governments of the several States that compose the American Union, and the powers of the Federal Government, this General Assembly do recognize and approve the doctrines asserted by the Legislatures of Kentucky and Virginia in their resolutions of November and December, 1798, and January, 1800, and do consider their principles have been recognized and adopted by a majority of the American people.

Resolved further, That this General Assembly do assert and will maintain by all legal and constitutional means, the rights of States to tax the business and property of any private corporation of trade, incorporated by the Congress of the United States, and located to transact its corporate business within any State.

Resolved further, That the bank of the United States is a private corporation of trade, the capital and business of which may be legally taxed in any State where they may be found.

Resolved further, That the General Assembly do protest against the doctrines that the political rights of the separate States that compose the American Union and their powers as sovereign States, may be settled and determined in the Supreme Court of the United States, so as to conclude and bind them in cases contrived between individuals, and where they are, no one of them, parties direct.

The bank was thus debarred from the aid of State laws in the collection of its dues and in the protection of its rights. An attempt was made to effect a change in the Federal constitution, which would take the case out of the United States Courts. This, however, proved ineffectual.

The banking system in Ohio has, by reason of State surveillance, not been subjected to those whirlwind speculations and questionable failures which have marked many Western States, in the establishment of a firm basis upon which a banking law could be sustained, with mutual benefit to the institution and the people.

THE CANAL SYSTEM.

In the first part of 1817, the Legislature considered a resolution relating to a canal between Lake Erie and the Ohio River. No action was taken and the subject was not again agitated until 1819. Gov. Brown appointed three commissioners in 1820, for the purpose of employing an efficient engineer and such assistants as he deemed necessary, for the purpose of surveying a practical route for this canal. The commissioners were restricted in their actions until Congress should accept a proposition in behalf of the State, for a donation and sale of the public lands lying upon and near the route of the proposed canal. A delay was thus occasioned for two years.

In 1822, the matter was referred to a committee of the House of Representatives. This committee approved and recommended the employment of the engineer. They furthermore added illustrations to prove the feasibility of the project.

James Geddes, a skillful engineer of New York, was in due time appointed to the position and instructed to make the necessary examinations and surveys.

The surveys were made, and estimates given of the expenses, which documents were laid before the Legislature at several sessions.

In 1825, an act was passed providing for the internal improvement of the State by navigable canals. Directly thereafter, the State set vigorously about the work of constructing two canals, one leading from the Ohio to Lake Erie, by way of the valleys of the Scioto and Muskingum, the other from Cincinnati to Dayton.

The first canal-boat from Cincinnati to Dayton, reached her destination in 1829, on the 25th of January. This outlet of communication was extended to Lake Erie, and was completed in 1845. The largest artificial lake now known is on the elevation between the Ohio and the lake, in Mercer County, and supplies the St. Mary's feeder of the Miami Canal, about three miles distant, eastwardly. This reservoir is about nine miles long, and from two to four broad.

Two walls of earth, from ten to twenty feet high, were formed, on the east and west, which united with the elevations north and south, surrounded this basin. When the water was admitted, whole farms were submerged, and the "neighbors" complained lest this overflow should tempt miasma. So great was the excitement, that over one hundred and fifty residents of the county united, and with shovels and spades, made a breach in the embankment. Many holding prominent positions in the county were engaged in this work,

and all laid themselves liable to the State laws, which made the despoiling of public works a penitentiary offense.

The matter was taken up by the courts, but a grand jury could not be found in Mercer County to find a bill of indictment.

The officers who had charge of the work, ignored the law requiring the cuting and saving of the timber on lands appropriated, for canal reservoirs. The trees were ruthlessly girdled, and thousands of acres of valuable timber that might have been highly desirable in the building of bridges, etc., were destroyed. However, an adjustment was finally effected, and the work was prosecuted with the entire approbation of the people, who were convinced that convenient transportation was to be desired.

OHIO LAND TRACTS.

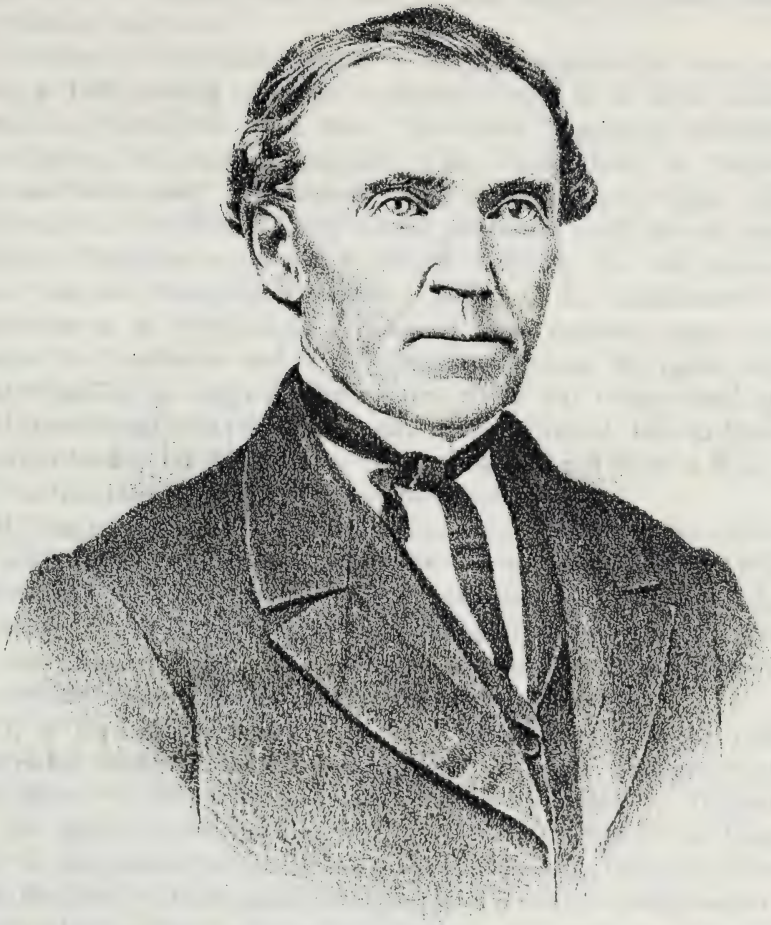
After the Indians relinquished all claims against the lands of those States west of the Alleghanies, as they had been obtained by conquest, the United States, as a government, owned the soil. When Ohio was admitted into the Union, a stipulation was made that the fee simple to all the lands within its boundaries, with the exception of those previously sold or granted, should vest in the General Government. At the present writing, but few tracts remain that can be called "public lands." In this, as in other States, tracts are designated by their pioneer signification or the purpose to which they were originally devoted. In Ohio, these tracts are known as:

1. Congress Lands.
2. United States Military.
3. Virginia Military.
4. Western Reserve.
5. Fire Lands.
6. Ohio Company's Purchase.
7. Donation Tract.
8. Symmes' Purchase.
9. Refugee Tract.
10. French Grant.
11. Dohrman's Grant.
12. Zane's Grant.
13. Canal Lands.
14. Turnpike Lands.
15. Maumee Road.
16. School Lands.
17. College Lands.
18. Ministerial Lands.
19. Moravian Lands.
20. Salt Sections.

The lands sold by the direct officers of the Government, under the direction of Congress, according to the laws, are known as Congress lands. They are properly surveyed, and laid out in townships six miles square, under the direction of the Government, and the expense incurred settled by Congress. These townships are subdivided into sections, containing 640 acres. One section is reserved, in every township, for educational purposes, to be utilized in any manner approved by the State as being the best to aid the cause for which they are assigned.

The Western Reserve will be remembered as the tract originally belonging to Connecticut. It lies in the northeast quarter of the State. A half-million acres were donated by the old Eastern State, when her claim was in force, to sufferers from fire during the Revolutionary war, which created the name, "fire lands." Many settled here whose homes were destroyed by the British during the war.

It will be remembered, that on account of discoveries by subjects of empires, in the New World, the "Old World" kings laid claim to different portions



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of the young continent. At that period, European knowledge of American geographical positions and limits was exceedingly meager, which occasioned several wars and more discussions. These Old-World sovereigns also assumed the authority to sell or present tracts of land to their subjects, in those territories they deemed their own.

King Charles II of England granted to his loyal subjects the colony of Connecticut, in 1662, placing with them a charter of right to all lands within certain prescribed boundaries. But these "boundaries" frequently conflicted with those of others, and sometimes extended to the Pacific Ocean, or "South Sea," as it was then termed. Connecticut, by her original charter rights, held all lands between the forty-first and forty-second parallels of north latitude, and from Providence Plantation on the east, to Pacific Ocean on the west, excepting the New York and Pennsylvania colonies. As late as the establishment of the United States as an independent government, those colliding claims frequently engendered confusion and warm discussion between the nation and Connecticut, regarding the original colony claim. This was compromised by the national claims being relinquished in regard to the territorial claim in Ohio, and Connecticut holding the 3,800,000 acres described as the "Western Reservation." The Government held the right of jurisdiction.

In 1796, Congress set aside a certain division of land, to satisfy the claims of officers and soldiers of the Revolutionary war. It includes the 2,500,000 acres between the Greenville treaty line and the Congress and refugee lands, and "VII ranges of townships," on the east, and the Scioto River, west. This constitutes the "Military Tract." The "Virginia Military Tract" lies between the Scioto and Little Miami Rivers, and extends south to the Ohio.

James I, in his authorized charter to the Virginia colony, in the year 1609, made rather visionary boundary lines, sweeping over the continent, west of the Ohio River, "of the north and south breadth of Virginia." Virginia reconciled the matter by relinquishing all her claims northwest of the Ohio River, with the exception of a tract for the purpose of donating the same to her troops of the Revolution—their claims demanding such a return in some section. Unfortunately, this tract was not regularly surveyed, and conflicting "lines" have given rise to litigation ever since that stipulation was made.

The Ohio Company's Purchase has already been described—as has the Symmes Purchase.

The Refugee Tract covers an area of 100,000 acres, extending eastwardly from the Scioto River forty-eight miles, in a strip of country four and one-half miles broad, north to south. *Columbus*, the capital of the State, is situated in the western portion. This land was donated by Congress to those individuals who left the British dominions and rule, during the Revolution, and espoused the American cause.

The French Tract borders on the Ohio River, in the southeastern quarter of Scioto County. It includes 24,000 acres, and was ceded to those French

families that lost their claims at Gallipolis, through invalid titles; 1,200 acres were added, after the above grant of 1795.

Dohrman's Grant includes a section, six miles square, in the southeastern portion of Tuscarawas County. It was granted to Arnold Henry Dohrman, a Portuguese merchant, as a token of appreciation of the aid and shelter he rendered American cruisers and vessels of war, during the Revolution.

The Moravian Lands were originally grants by the old Continental Congress, in 1787, and confirmed by the act of the Government Congress, in 1796, to the Moravian Brethren, of Bethlehem, Penn., in sacred trust, and for the use of those Indians who embraced Christianity and civilization, desiring to live and settle thereon. These three tracts include 4,000 acres each, and are situated in Tuscarawas County. In 1823, the Indians relinquished their rights to the 12,000 acres in this county, for 24,000 acres, in a territory designated by the United States, together with an annuity of $400.

Zane's Tracts included a portion of land on the Muskingum, whereon Zanesville was built; another at the crossing of the Hocking, on which Lancaster is located; and yet another on the left bank of the Scioto River, opposite Chillicothe. These grants were made to Ebenezer Zane, by Congress, in 1796, as a reward for opening a road from Wheeling, Va., to Maysville, Ky. In 1802, Mr. Zane received three additional tracts, one square mile each, in consideration of being captured and held a prisoner, during the Revolutionary war, when a boy, by the Indians. He lived with these people most of his life, securing many benefits for the Americans. These tracts are located in Champaign County.

The Maumee Road Lands extend the length of the road, from the Maumee River, at Perrysburg, to the western limits of the Western Reserve, a distance of forty-six miles—in a strip two miles wide. This includes about 60,000 acres. These lands were ceded by the Indians, at the treaty of Brownstown, in 1808. The original intention of Congress was to mark a highway through this strip, but no definite action was taken until 1823, when the land was ceded to the State of Ohio, under an obligation that the State make and sustain the projected road, within four years after the transfer.

The Turnpike Lands extended over 31,360 acres along the western side of the Columbus & Sandusky Turnpike, in the eastern parts of Seneca, Crawford and Marion Counties. They were designed for the transportation of mail stages, troops and other United States property, free from toll. The grant was made in 1827.

"The Ohio Canal Lands" comprise about 1,000,000 acres, set aside for the purpose of canal construction.

When Ohio was admitted to the Union, a guarantee was given that the State should not tax Government lands until they should have been sold for five years. That the thirty-sixth part of all territory within the State limits should be devoted to educational purposes, for the general benefit of the population. In

order to secure tracts which would prove available, and thus insure returns, they were selected in small lots. No. 16 was designated as the sectional portion, in each township of Congress lands, the Ohio Company's and Symmes Purchases, the United States Military Lands, the Connecticut Reserve, and a number of quarter townships. These school lands were selected by the Secretary of the Treasury.

The college townships are thirty-six miles square. A section, thirty-six miles square, in the center of Jackson County, in the vicinity and containing the Scioto Salt Licks, was also reserved by Congress, together with a quarter-mile township in Delaware County. This swept over 27,040 acres. In 1824, Congress authorized the State to sell these lands. The proceeds were to be devoted to literary requirements, such as might be specified by Congress.

IMPROVEMENTS.

We have heretofore briefly alluded to the canal system of Ohio, which in the beginning caused considerable anxiety to settlers directly in the course of its survey. The Legislature passed the "Internal Improvement by Navigable Canals" act, in 1825, and the work was immediately inaugurated and hastened. The "Ohio Canal" extends from the lake to the Ohio, and the "Miami" connects Cincinnati with Dayton. The latter was completed to Toledo in 1844, a length of 493 miles. Its total cost, including reservoir cutting and feeders, was $7,500,000. The Ohio Canal was finished in 1833.

During the construction of these canals, the curiosities which have attracted antiquarians and scientists, in the State of Ohio, were found in various places. Relics were discovered that must have belonged to a giant race. Nearly 3,000 graves were found, of the "mound type."

A third canal was begun in 1836, reaching from Walhonding, in Coshocton County, to Roscoe, its length being twenty-five miles, involving an expense of $610,000. This was completed in 1842. The Hocking Canal, between Carroll, in Fairfield County, and Athens, in Athens County, a distance of fifty-six miles, was also cut, about the same time, at a cost of nearly $1,000,000.

The Muskingum improvements were also being carried forward. Locks and dams were requisite for the perfection of navigation in this water-course, from Dresden to Marietta, a distance of ninety-one miles. This added an expense of $1,630,000 to the call for improvement appropriations. To the Miami Canal was added a feeder, known as the Warren County Canal—extending from Franklin to Lebanon, which was not completed, although over $250,000 were expended in its construction as far as it went.

Railway transportation was a subject which engrossed the attention of those interested in State perpetuity and general prosperity. About the year 1831, the Legislature received applications for railway charters. The first one granted was the "Cincinnati, Sandusky & Cleveland Railroad," on June 5, 1832. The "Sandusky, Mansfield & Newark Railroad" obtained a charter in 1836, March 11, followed,

three days thereafter, by the "Cleveland, Columbus & Cincinnati Railroad." The "Little Miami" was begun in 1837. Notwithstanding these chartered rights, but 129 miles were completed in 1847, and in operation. In 1878, the mileage had increased to 6,264. The valuation of the operating roads was estimated the same year, at $76,113,500. Their taxation summed up $1,128,116.

No State in the Union has been more zealous in her educational interests than Ohio. Public lands were generously granted by Congress, and the State added her affirmation. However, no practical and effectual system was adopted until 1825.

An act was then passed to tax all real property one-half mill per dollar for the establishment of schools in each township, and the support of the same. An act of 1829, increased the tax to three-fourths of a mill. Trustees of townships were instructed to make divisions and locate convenient school districts. Householders were to elect three school directors, a clerk and treasurer annually. Privileges and restrictions were enjoined in all cases. The householders were allowed their discretion, governed accordingly, in imposing taxes for the erection of school buildings. The Courts of the Common Pleas appointed a committee to examine the qualifications of those individuals making application for the position of teachers. The school extended equal privileges to all white children. Those of colored parentage were excluded, and no tax was levied for school purposes upon colored parents. An amendment has admitted the children of colored parents. The system has continued the same, with a few amendments. A State Commissioner of Common Schools is elected every third year, who has general charge of the interests of public schools. A State Board of Examiners, composed of three persons, appointed by the State Commissioner, for two years' term, is authorized to issue life certificates of high qualifications, to such teachers as it may find to possess the requisite scholarship, character, experience and ability. These certificates, signed by the Commissioner, are valid throughout the State. A County Board of Examiners, of three members, is formed in each county. Boards of education, for cities, are made up of one or two members from each ward. City Boards of Examiners are also appointed. Section 4 of the law of 1873, was amended in 1877, which made the territory annexed to an incorporated village, at the option of the voters of the village and tributary section, whether it be included with the village as one school district, or left as two school districts. Section 56 of the law was amended, in its bearing upon cities of 30,000 to 75,000 inhabitants, by limiting to five mills on the dollar of taxable property, the levies in such cities for continuing schools, for purchasing sites for schoolhouses, for leasing, purchasing, erecting and furnishing school houses, and for all school expenses. The public funds are subject to the discretion of voters, and boards are authorized, under instructions, to make the best use of such funds. Taxation is subject to the discretion of the State, certain limits being prescribed.

In 1878, the number of youth of the school age numbered 1,041,963. On the rolls, 740,194 names were recorded. In the year 1878, 23,391 teachers were employed, receiving $4,956,514.46 for their services.

Ohio not only sustains her public schools on a broad, liberal basis, but she encourages educational pursuits in superior universities and colleges throughout the State. These institutions are not aided by State funds, but are sustained by society influence, added to their self-supporting resources. Ohio also possesses a large number of normal schools, academies, seminaries and business colleges. These are not entitled to the privileges of the school fund. Scientific, professional, theological, legal and medical instructions are in no manner limited in their facilities. Industrial and reformatory schools are especially thorough. Institutions for the instruction of the deaf and dumb, and blind, and feeble-minded, are under the best discipline.

We may add, many female seminaries have been established which are entirely sustained by other than State aid. Ohio has, from its inception, been solid and vigorous in whatever tended toward improvement and enlightenment.

We have also referred to the banking system of this State, as being first established on a basis through a contest between the State and the General Government. Authorities differ regarding the exact date and location of the very first house established in the State for the purpose of transacting banking business. It is highly probable that Marietta is more directly associated with that event than any other town. There are at present over one hundred and sixty-seven national banks, with an aggregate capital of $27,794,468. It also has eighteen banks of deposit, incorporated under the State banking laws of 1845, representing an aggregate capital of $539,904. Twenty-three savings banks, incorporated under the State act of 1875, with an aggregate capital of $1,277,500. Of private banks it has 192, with an aggregate capital of $5,663,898. The State represents in her banking capital over $36,275,770. The First National of Cincinnati has a capital stock of over $1,000,000. The others fall below that sum, their capital diminishing from 10,000 shares of $100 each. The valuation for taxation is $850,000—Merchant's National of Cincinnati—to the valuation of a tax of $5,000 on the First National of Beverly.

BOUNDARY LINES.

We must not omit the subject of the State boundaries. Ohio was especially the field for most animated discussions, relative not only to State limits but county lines and township rights. In 1817, a severe controversy arose, which was settled only after violent demonstrations and Government interference.

In primitive times, the geographical position, extent and surface diversities were but meagerly comprehended. In truth, it may be asserted they could not have been more at variance with actual facts had they been laid out "haphazard." The ordinance of 1787 represented Lake Michigan far north of its real position, and even as late as 1812, its size and location had not been

definitely ascertained. During that year, Amos Spafford addressed a clear, comprehensive letter to the Governor of Ohio, on this subject, relative to the boundary lines of Ohio. Several lines of survey were laid out as the first course, but either Michigan or Ohio expressed disapproval in every case. This culminated in 1835, when the party beginning a "permanent" survey began at the northwest corner of the State, and was attacked by a force of Michigan settlers who sent them away badly routed and beaten. No effort was made to return to the work until the State and various parties had weighed the subject, and finally the interposition of the Government became necessary.

A settlement resulted in Ohio being bounded on the north by Lake Erie and the State of Michigan, on the east by Pennsylvania and West Virginia, on the south by the Ohio River, and on the west by Indiana.

It is situated between the 38° 25′ and 42° north latitude, and 84° 50′ west longitude from Greenwich, or 3° 30′ and 7° 50′ west from Washington. From north to south, it extends over 210 miles, and from east to west 220 miles—comprising 39,964 square miles.

The State is generally higher than the Ohio River. In the southern counties, the surface is greatly diversified by the inequalities produced by the excavating power of the Ohio River and its tributaries. The greater portion of the State was originally covered with timber, although in the central and northwestern sections some prairies were found. The crest or watershed between the waters of Lake Erie and those of the Ohio is less elevated than in New York or Pennsylvania. Sailing upon the Ohio the country appears to be mountainous, bluffs rising to the height of two hundred and fifty to six hundred feet above the valleys. Ascending the tributaries of the Ohio, these precipitous hills gradually lessen until they are resolved into gentle undulations, and toward the sources of the river the land is low and marshy.

Although Ohio has no inland lakes of importance, she possesses a favorable river system, which, aided by her canals, gives her prestige of a convenient water transportation. The lake on her northern boundary, and the Ohio River on her southern limit, afford most convenient outlets by water to important points. Her means of communication and transportation are superior in every respect, and are constantly being increased.

ORGANIZATION OF COUNTIES AND EARLY EVENTS.

Adams County was named in honor of John Adams, second President of the United States. Gov. St. Clair proclaimed it a county on July 10, 1797. The Virginia Military Tract included this section, and the first settlement made within its boundaries was in this county in 1790–91, between the Scioto and Little Miami, at Manchester, by Gen. Nathaniel Massie. In this town was held the first court of the county.

West Union, the present county seat, was laid out by the Hon. Thomas Kirker. It occupies the summit of a high ridge. The surface of this county is

hilly and broken, and the eastern part is not fertile. It produces corn, wheat, oats and pork. Beds of iron are found in the eastern part. Its hills are composed of aluminous shale. The barren hills afford a range for cattle and hogs. A sort of vagrant class derive a support by collecting stones, hoop-poles and tanners' barks from these hills.

Ashland County is one of the finest agricultural sections. It was formed February 26, 1846. Wheat comprises its principal crop, although large quantities of oats, corn, potatoes, grass and fruit are raised. Ashland is its county seat, and was laid out by William Montgomery in 1816. It was called Uniontown for several years. Daniel Carter raised the first cabin within the county limits in 1811.

Auglaize County was formed in February, 1848, from Allen and Mercer Counties. Wapakoneta is its county seat.

Allen County was formed from the Indian Territory April 1, 1820. Lima is its county seat.

Ashtabula County was formed June 7, 1807, and was organized January 22, 1811. The surface is level near the lake, while the remainder is undulating. The soil is mostly clay. Very little wheat is raised, but considerable corn and oats. Butter and cheese are the main marketable productions. This was the first county settled on the Western Reserve, and also the earliest in Northern Ohio. On the 4th of July, 1796, the first surveying party arrived at the mouth of Conneaut Creek. Judge James Kingsbury was the first who wintered there with his family. He was the first man to use a sickle in the first wheat-field in the Western Reserve. Their child was the first born on the Western Reserve, and was starved to death. The first regular settlement was at Harpersfield, in 1798.

Jefferson is the county seat. Ashtabula is pleasantly situated on the river, with a fine harbor two and a half miles from the village.

The first church on the Western Reserve was founded at Austinburg in 1801.

Athens County was formed from Washington March 1, 1805. It produces wheat, corn, oats and tobacco. The surface is hilly and broken, with rich bottom lands between. Coal, iron ore and salt add materially to its commercial value. It has the advantage of the canal, as well as other transportation. Athens, its county seat, is situated on the Hocking River. The Ohio University, the first college founded in the State, is located here. We have mentioned the ancient mounds found in this county, heretofore. Yellow pine is abundant in the lower part of the Hocking Valley.

Brown County was formed March 1, 1818, from Adams and Clermont. It produces wheat, corn, rye, oats and pork. The southern part is prolific in grain, while the northern is adapted to grazing purposes. The surface is undulating, with the exception of the Ohio River hills. Over this county Tecumseh once held sway

Georgetown is the county seat, and was laid out in 1819. Ripley is the largest business town in the county.

Belmont County was announced by Gov. St. Clair September 7, 1801. It produces large crops of wheat, oats, corn and tobacco, an annual crop of over 2,000,000 pounds of the latter being the average. It also trades largely in wool and coal. It is a picturesque tract of country, and was one of the pioneers in the early settled portions.

In 1790, Fort Dillie was erected on the west side of the Ohio. Baker's Fort was a mile below the mouth of the Captina. Many desperate Indian battles were fought within the limits of this county, and the famous Indian scout, Lewis Wetzel, roamed over the region.

St. Clairsville is the county seat, situated on the elevation of land, in a fertile district. Capt. Kirkwood and Elizabeth Zane, of historic fame, were early pioneers here.

Butler County was formed in 1803, from Hamilton. It is within the blue limestone formation, and one of the most fertile sections of Ohio. It produces more corn than any other county in the State, besides fine crops of wheat, oats and large quantities of pork. Hamilton, the county seat, is situated on the Great Miami. Its hydraulic works furnish superior water-power. Rossville, on the opposite side of the Miami, is a large mercantile town.

St. Clair passed through this county on his Indian campaigns in 1791, building Fort Hamilton on the Miami.

Champaign County was formed March 1, 1805, from Greene and Franklin. It is drained by Mad River and its tributaries, which furnishes extensive mill privileges. Nearly a half is undulating, a quarter rolling, a fifth hilly, and 5 per cent wet prairie. The soil is fertile, and produces wheat, corn, oats, barley, hay, while beef and wool add to the general wealth. Urbana, the county seat, was laid out in 1805, by Col. William Ward. He was chief owner of the land and donated many lots to the county, under condition that their proceeds be devoted to public improvements. Joseph Vance and George Fithian were the first settlers. The Methodists built the first church in 1807. The main army of Hull concentrated at this point before setting out for Detroit. Many Indian councils were called here, and Tecumseh was located for a time near Deer Creek.

Carroll County was formed from Columbiana in 1832–33. It produces wheat, oats and corn, and valuable coal and iron. The surface is hilly. Carrollton is its county seat. At Harlem is a celebrated chalybeate spring.

Clark County was formed March 1, 1817, from Champaign, Madison and Greene. Its second settlement was at Kreb's Station, in 1796. It is highly cultivated, well watered and very fertile. The Mad River, Buck and Beaver Creeks furnish abundant water-power. It produces principally wheat, corn and oats.

Tecumseh, the old Indian warrior, was born at the ancient Indian village of Piqua, on the Mad River, on the site of New Boston. Piqua was

destroyed by Gen. George Rogers Clarke. Skeletons, beads, gun barrels, tomahawks, kettles, etc., have been found in the vicinity.

Springfield, the county seat, is situated on the National road. It has convenient transportation facilities, is handsomely laid out, and is noted for its cultured citizens. It is near Mad River, and Buck Creek runs through it.

Clinton County was formed in 1810. It produces chiefly wheat, oats, wool and pork. Its surface is undulating, in some parts hilly, and the soil fertile. Its streams furnish desirable water-power. The county was settled in 1798–99. Wilmington is the county seat, and was laid out in 1810. The first log house was built by William Hobsin.

Clermont County was the eighth formed in the Northwest Territory, by proclamation of Gov. St. Clair, December 9, 1800. The soil is exceedingly rich, and the surface is broken and, near the Ohio, hilly. Wheat, corn, oats, hay, potatoes, tobacco, barley, buckwheat and rye form the main crops, while beef, pork, flour, hay and whisky constitute its main exports. Its streams furnish good water-power. Batavia, its county seat, is situated on the Little Miami River, and was laid out in 1820, by George Ely.

Columbiana County was formed March 25, 1803, from Jefferson and Washington. Its soil is very fertile, producing wheat, corn, oats and potatoes. It is wealthy in mineral deposits, coal, iron ore, lime and freestone being abundant. Its water-lime stone is of superior quality. Salt water is found on Yellow and Beaver Creeks. This is also the great wool-producing county of the State. It was settled in 1797. New Lisbon, its county seat, is well built.

The first paper-mill in Ohio was erected in this county, on Little Beaver Creek, by John Coulter and John Bever.

Coshocton County was organized April 1, 1811. Its principal products are wheat, corn, oats and wool. Hills and valleys alternate along the Muskingum River. Abrupt changes are strongly marked—a rich alluvum being overhung by a red-bush hill, while directly beside it may be seen the poplar and sugar tree. Coal and iron ore add to its general importance, while salt wells have proven remunerative.

Coshocton, the county seat, is built on four wide, natural terraces, at the junction of the Tuscarawas with the Walhonding.

Cuyahoga County was formed June 7, 1807, from Geauga. Near the lake, the soil is sandy, while a clayey loam may be found elsewhere. The valleys near the streams produce wheat, barley and hay. Fruit is successfully grown, and cheese, butter, beef and wool are largely exported. Bog iron is found in the western part, and fine grindstone quarries are in operation. The sandstone from these quarries is now an important article of commerce. As early as 1775, there was a French settlement within the boundaries of Cuyahoga. In 1786, a Moravian missionary came to the present site of Cleveland, and settled in an abandoned village of the Ottawas. Circumstances prevented a

permanent settlement, and the British tacitly took possession, even remaining upon the lake shores after the Revolution.

The first permanent settlement was made at Cleveland in 1796. Mr. Job V. Stiles and family and Edward Paine passed the first winter there, their log cabin standing where the Commercial Bank is now located. Rodolphus Edwards and Nathaniel Doane settled here. The town was, in 1813, a depot of supplies and a rendezvous for troops engaged in the war.

Cleveland, the county seat, is situated at the northern termination of the Ohio Canal, on the lake shore. In 1814, it was incorporated as a village, and in 1836, as a city. Its elevation is about a hundred feet above the lake. It is a lovely city, and has one of the best harbors on Lake Erie.

Ohio City is another important town, nearly opposite Cleveland, on the Cuyahoga. It was incorporated in 1836.

Crawford County was formed April 1, 1820, from the old Indian territory. The entire county is adapted to grazing. The soil is generally composed of rich vegetable loam, and in some parts the subsoil is clay mixed with lime. Rich beds of shell marl have been discovered. It produces wheat, corn, oats, clover, timothy seed, wool and cattle. Fine limestone quarries are worked with success.

Bucyrus is the county seat, and was laid out February 11, 1822, by Samuel Norton and James Kilbourn, original owners of the land. The first settler in the town proper was Samuel Norton. A gas well has been dug in Bucyrus, on the land of R. W. Musgrove, which burns in a brilliant light when conducted to the surface by means of pipes. Crawford's Sulphur Springs are located nine miles from Bucyrus. The water is impregnated with sulphuretted hydrogen. It deposits a reddish-purple sediment. In its nature the water is a cathartic, and is diuretic and diaphoretic in its effects. A few rods away is a burning spring. The Annapolis Sulphur Spring is clear and has gained considerable fame by its curative qualities. Opposite Bucyrus is a chalybeate spring of tonic qualities.

There are some beds of peat in the county, the most extensive one being a wet prairie called Cranberry Marsh, containing nearly 2,000 acres.

Darke County was organized in March, 1817, from Miami County. It is abundantly timbered with poplar, walnut, blue ash, hickory, beech and sugar maple. It yields superior wheat, and is well adapted to grazing. In this county occurred the lamentable defeat of St. Clair, and the treaty of Greenville.

Greenville is the county seat, and was laid out August 10, 1808, by Robert Gray and John Dover. In December, 1793, Wayne built Fort Greenville on this spot, which covered about the same extent as the present town.

Delaware County was formed February 10, 1808, from Franklin. It produces mainly wheat, corn, oats, pork and wool.

Delaware is the county seat, and was laid out in the spring of 1808, by Moses Byxbe. The Delaware Spring in the village is of the white sulphur or

cold hydro-sulphurous nature, valuable for medicinal qualities in cases of bilious derangements, dyspepsia, scrofulous affections, etc.

Defiance County was inaugurated March 4, 1845, from Williams, Henry and Paulding. The Maumee, Tiffin and Auglaize flow through it. The Black Swamp covers much of its area.

Defiance, the county seat, is situated on the Maumee. It was laid out in 1822, by B. Level and H. Phillips. A large Indian settlement occupied its site in very early times. Wayne arrived here August 8, 1794, captured the place, finding about one thousand acres of corn, peach and apple orchards, and vegetables of all varieties. Here he built Fort Defiance.

Erie County was formed in 1838, from Huron and Sandusky. The soil is alluvial, and yields large crops of wheat, corn, oats and potatoes. It possesses inexhaustable quarries of limestone and freestone. Immense quantities of bog iron are also found. The Erie tribe is said to have once occupied the land, and were extirpated by the Iroquois. As early as 1754, the French had built settlements. In 1764, the county was besieged. Pontiac came here with warlike demonstrations, but made peace with the whites. Erie was included in the "fire lands" of the Western Reserve.

Sandusky City is the county seat, and was laid out in 1817, then termed Portland. At that time it contained two log huts. The town is finely situated, and is based upon an inexhaustible quarry of the finest limestone. In the "patriot war" with the Canadians, this city was the rendezvous for the "patriots."

Franklin County was formed April 30, 1803, from Ross. It contains much low wet land, and is better adapted to grazing than agricultural purposes. It was in early times occupied by the Wyandot Indians. Its first white settlement was made in 1797, by Robert Armstrong and others. Franklinton was laid out in 1797, by Lucas Sullivan. Worthington was settled by the Scioto Company in 1801. Col. Kilbourn, who was interested in the work, constructed the first map of Ohio during his explorations, by uniting sectional diagrams.

Columbus, the capital of the State of Ohio, is also the county seat of Franklin County. After the organization of a State government, the capital was "portable" until 1816. In 1810, the sessions were held at Chillicothe, in 1811 and 1812 at Zanesville, removing again to Chillicothe, and, in 1816, being located at Columbus. The town was laid out during the spring of 1812. A penitentiary was erected in 1813, and the State House was built in 1814. It was incorporated as "the borough of Columbus," February 10, 1816. The city charter was granted March 3, 1834.

It is beautifully located on the east bank of the Scioto. The Columbus Institute is a classical institution. A female and a theological seminary also add to its educational advantages. The Ohio Lunatic Asylum is also located here—also the Ohio Institution for the Education of the Blind. East of the

State House is the Ohio Institution for the Education of the Deaf and Dumb.

Fairfield County was formed by proclamation of Gov. St. Clair, December 9, 1800.

The soil is varied, being in some parts exceedingly rich, and in others very sterile. It produces principally wheat, corn, rye, oats, buckwheat, barley, potatoes and tobacco.

Lancaster is the county seat, laid out by Ebenezer Zane in 1800. In 1797, he opened the road known as "Zane's Trace," from Wheeling to Limestone—now Maysville. It passed through Lancaster, at a fording about three hundred yards below the present turnpike bridge. Near the turn stands an imposing eminance called "Standing Stone." Parties of pleasure frequently visit this spot.

Fayette County was formed from Ross and Highland in 1810. Wheat, corn, cattle, hogs, sheep and wool comprise its main productions. "The barrens" are situated in the northeastern part. This tract is covered by a growth of grass.

Washington is its county seat, laid out in 1810.

Col. Stewart was active in the interests of this section, and his memory is sacredly revered. Jesse Milliken was prominent in public affairs.

Fulton County, bordering on Michigan, was organized in 1850. It is drained by Bean Creek and other small affluents of the Maumee River. The surface is nearly level, and a large part of it is covered with forests of ash, beech, elm, hickory, white oak, black walnut, etc., furnishing excellent timber. The soil is fertile. Wheat, corn, oats and hay are the staple products. Wauseon is the county seat.

Guernsey County was organized in March, 1810. Wool is a staple product, together with beef, horses and swine. It produces wheat, corn and oats.

Cambridge is the county seat and was laid out in June, 1806. Mr. Graham was the first settler on the site of the town, and his was the only dwelling between Lancaster and Wheeling.

The first cannel coal found in the county was discovered near Mill's Creek.

Greene County was formed May 1, 1803, from Hamilton and Ross. It produces wheat, corn, rye, grass-seed, oats, barley, sheep and swine. The streams furnish good water-power. There are five limestone quarries, and a marble quarry of variegated colors. The Shawnee town was on the Little Miami, and was visited by Capt. Thomas Bullit in 1773. When Daniel Boone was captured in 1778, he was brought to this town, and escaped the following year. Gen. Clarke invaded this county and the Indians reduced the town to ashes.

Xenia, the county seat, was laid off in the forest in 1803, by Joseph C. Vance. The first cabin was erected in April, 1804, by John Marshall. The Rev. James Fowler built the first hewed-log cabin. David A. Sanders built the first frame house. Nine miles north of the town, on the Little Miami River, are the Yellow Springs, which are impregnated with sulphur.

Geauga County was formed in 1805 from Trumbull. It exports sheep, cattle, butter and cheese. It is situated at the head of Chargrine, Cuyahoga and a part of Grand Rivers, on high ground, and is subjected to snowstorms more frequently than any other part of the Reserve. Its first settlement was made in 1798, at Burton. Chardon is fourteen miles from Lake Erie, and is 600 feet above it. It was laid out as the county seat in 1808.

Gallia County was formed April 30, 1803, from Washington. Its principal crops are wheat, corn, oats and beans. The surface is generally broken. Its first settlement was made in 1791, by a French colony, at Gallipolis. This colony was sent out under the auspices of the Scioto Company. This town is now the county seat.

Hamilton County was the second established in the Northwestern Territory by proclamation of Gov. St. Clair, January 2, 1790. Its surface is generally rolling. It produces the ordinary farm products, and a great variety of fruits and vegetables for the Cincinnati market. Vineyards thrive well within its limits, and the manufacture of wine is carried on to a considerable extent.

This county was the second settled in Ohio, and the first within the Symmes purchase. Settlers arrived at the spot now occupied by Cincinnati, and three or four log cabins were erected. Gen. Arthur St. Clair arrived here in January, 1790. The army of Wayne encamped here later, at Fort Washington. Mr. Maxwell established in 1793 the *Sentinel of the Northwestern Territory*, the first newspaper printed north of the Ohio River. In 1796, Edward Freeman became its proprietor, and changed the name to *Freeman's Journal*. January 11, 1794, two keel-boats sailed from Cincinnati to Pittsburgh, making regular trips every four weeks. In 1801, the first sea vessel built at Marietta came down the Ohio.

Cincinnati, the county seat, was incorporated January 2, 1802. It was chartered as a city in 1819. The city is beautifully laid out and delightfully situated. Its public buildings are elegant and substantial, including the court house and many literary and charitable institutions.

The Cincinnati College was founded in 1819. It stands in the center of the city. It is built in Grecian-Doric style, with pilaster fronts and facade of Dayton marble. Woodward College is also popular.

The Catholics have founded the St. Xavier's College. Lane Seminary, a theological institution, is at Walnut Hills, two miles from the center of the city. It has over 10,000 volumes in its libraries. No charge is made for tuition. Rooms are provided and furnished at $5 per year, and board ranges from 62½ cents to 90 cents a week. The Cincinnati Law School is connected with Cincinnati College. The Mechanics' Institute was chartered in 1828, and is in all respects well supplied with apparatus. A college for teachers was established in 1831, its object being to perfect those contemplating entering that profession in their studies and system.

The Cincinnati Orphan Asylum is an elegant building, and has a library and well-organized school attached. The Catholics of the city have one male and female orphan asylum. The Commercial Hospital and Lunatic Asylum of Ohio was incorporated in 1821.

Cincinnati is a large manufacturing city, and possesses fine water-power facilities. It communicates with the world by means of its canal, river, turnpikes, and railways. North Bend is another prominent town in this county, having been the residence of Gen. William H. Harrison, and the site of his burial place. The town was of considerable importance in the early settlement of the State. About thirty yards from Harrison's tomb is the grave of Judge Symmes.

Hancock County was formed April 1, 1820. It produces wheat, oats, corn, pork and maple sugar. The surface is level and its soil is fertile. Blanchard's Fork waters the central and southern part of the county. Findlay, the county seat, was laid out by ex-Gov. Joseph Vance and Elnathan Corry, in 1821. It was relaid in 1829. Wilson Vance settled there in the fall of 1821. Located in Findlay are the greatest gas wells of Ohio, the city being lighted and heated by natural gas, which has been known for over 40 years to exist at Findlay.

Hardin County was formed April 1, 1820, from the old Indian Territory. It produces, principally, wheat, corn and swine. A portion of the surface is level, and the remainder undulating. Fort McArthur was built on the Scioto River, but proved a weak stockade. Kenton is the county seat, situated on the Scioto River.

Harrison County was formed from Jefferson and Tuscarawas January 1, 1814. The surface is hilly, abounding in coal and limestone. Its soil is clayey. It is one of the important wool-growing counties in Ohio. It produces large quantities of wheat, corn, oats and hay, besides a considerable number of horses, cattle and swine.

In April, 1799, Alexander Henderson and family settled in this county, and at the same time, Daniel Peterson and his family resided at the forks of Short Creek. The early settlers were much annoyed by Indians and wild beasts. Cadiz is the county seat, and was laid out in 1803 and 1804, by Messrs. Briggs and Beatty.

Henry County was formed from the old Indian Territory, April 1, 1820. Indian corn, oats, potatoes, and maple sugar constitute the main products. The county is well supplied with running streams, and the soil is unusually rich.

The greater portion of this county is covered by the "Black Swamp." Throughout this swamp are ridges of limestone, covered with black walnut, red elm, butternut and maple. The soil is superior for grain. Fruit thrives and all varieties of vegetables are produced in large quantities. Simon Girty, notorious for his wicked career, resided in this county. Girty led the attack on Fort Henry, in September, 1777. He demanded the surrender of the fort, and menaced its inmates with an Indian massacre, in case of refusal. The

action began, but the fort gained the victory. He led a ferocious band of Indians, and committed the most fiendish atrocities.

Napoleon, the county seat, is situated on the Maumee River.

Highland County was formed in May, 1805, from Ross, Adams and Clermont. It is a wealthy, productive county. Its wheat commands a high market price. The crops consist of wheat, corn, oats, maple sugar, wool, swine and cattle. Its first settlement began in 1801, at New Market, by Oliver Ross, Robert Keeston, George W. Barrere, Bernard Weyer and others. Simon Kenton made a trace through this county in early times. Hillsboro is the county seat, and was laid out in 1807, by David Hays, on the land of Benjamin Ellicott. It is situated on the dividing ridge, between the Miami and Scioto. The Hillsboro Academy was founded in 1827.

Hocking County was formed March 1, 1818, from Ross, Athens and Fairfield. Its principal products are corn, wheat, tobacco and maple sugar. Its surface is broken and hilly, but is level and fertile beside the streams.

The Wyandots once occupied this tract, and built a large town herein. In 1798, a few white families ventured to settle. Logan is its county seat, and is situated on the Hocking River.

Holmes County was formed from Coshocton, Tuscarawas and Wayne, January 20, 1824. It produces wheat, corn, oats, potatoes, maple sugar, swine, sheep and cattle. The southwestern portion is broken. Thomas Butler was the first settler, in 1810. Millersburg is the county seat, and was laid out in 1830.

Huron County was organized in 1815. It produces hay, wheat, corn, oats, barley, buckwheat, flaxseed, potatoes, butter, cheese, wool and swine. Norwalk is the county seat.

Jackson County was organized March, 1816. The country is rich in minerals and abounds in coal and iron ore. The exports are cattle, wool, swine, horses, lumber, millstones, tobacco and iron. Jackson, the county seat, was laid out in 1817. The old Scioto salt-works were among the first worked in Ohio by the whites. Prior to this period, the Indians came some distance to this section to make salt. When Daniel Boone was a prisoner, he spent some time at these works.

Jefferson County was proclaimed by Gov. St. Clair July 29, 1797, and was the fifth county established in Ohio. It is one of the most important manufacturing counties in the State. Its resources in coal are also extended. The surface is hilly and the soil fertile, producing wheat, corn and oats. The old "Mingo" town was on the present farms of Jeremiah Hallock and Mr. Daniel Potter. The troops of Col. Williamson rendezvoused at this point, when they set out in their cruel Moravian campaign, and also the troops of Col. Crawford, when they started on the campaign against the Sandusky Indians. Here Logan, the powerful and manly chief of the Mingo nation, once resided. He took no active part in the old French war, which closed in

1760, except that of a peacemaker. He was a stanch friend of the whites until the abominable and unprovoked murder of his father, brother and sister, which occurred in 1774, near the Yellow Creek. He then raised the battle cry and sought revenge.

However, Logan was remarkably magnanimous toward prisoners who fell into his hands. The year 1793 was the last spent in Indian warfare in Jefferson County.

Fort Steuben was erected on the present site of Steubenville, the county seat, in 1789. It was constructed of block-houses, with palisade fences, and was dismantled during Wayne's campaign. Bezaleel Wells and Hon. James Ross laid the town out in 1798. It was incorporated February 14, 1805. It is situated upon an elevated plain. In 1814, Messrs. Wells and Dickerson built a woolen manufactory, and introduced merino sheep to the county.

Knox County was formed March 1, 1808, from Fairfield. It is drained by the Vernon River. It produces wheat, corn, oats, tobacco, maple sugar, potatoes and wool. Mount Vernon was laid out in 1805. The early settlers found two wells on the Vernon River, built of hammered stone, neatly laid, and near by was a salt-lick. Their direct origin remains a mystery. Gilman Bryant, in 1807, opened the first store in Mount Vernon. The court house was built in 1810. The Indians came to Mount Vernon in large numbers for the purpose of trading in furs and cranberries. Each Saturday, the settlers worked on the streets, extracting stumps and improving the highway. The first settler north of the place was N. M. Young, who built his cabin in 1803. Mount Vernon is now the county seat, beautifully situated on Vernon River. Kenyon College is located at Gambier. It is richly endowed with 8,000 acres, and is valued at $100,000. This institution was established under the auspices of Bishop Chase, in July, 1826, in the center of a 4,000-acre tract belonging to Kenyon College. It was chartered as a theological seminary.

Lucas County is of comparatively recent origin. A large portion is covered by the "Black Swamp." It produces corn, wheat, potatoes and oats. This county is situated in the Maumee Valley, which was the great arena of historical events. The frightful battle of Wayne's campaign, where the Indians found the British to be traitors, was fought near Fort Miami, in this county. Maumee City, once the county seat, was laid out in 1817, as Maumee, by Maj. Wm. Oliver and others. It is situated on the Maumee, at the head of navigation. The surface is 100 feet above the water level. This town, with Perrysburg, its neighbor, is exceedingly picturesque, and was in early times frequented by the Indians. The French had a trading station at this point, in 1680, and in 1794, the British Fort—Miami—was built. Toledo is on the left bank of the Maumee, and covers the site of a stockade fort, known as Fort Industry, erected in 1800. An Indian treaty was held here July 4, 1805, by which the Indians relinquished all rights to the "fire lands." In 1832, Capt. Samuel Allen gave an impetus to the place, and Maj. Stickney also became interested in its advancement.

Speculation in lots began in 1834. The Wabash & Erie Canal interest arose in 1836. Mr. Mason and Edward Bissel added their energies to assist the growth of the town. It was incorporated as a city in 1836. It was the center of the military operations in the "Ohio and Michigan war," known as the "boundary conflict."

The Ordinance of 1787 provided for the division of the Northwestern Territory into three or five States. The three southern were to be divided from the two northern by a line drawn east and west through the southern point of Lake Michigan, extending eastward to the Territorial line in Lake Erie. The constitution of Ohio adds a provision that if the line should not go so far north as the north cape of Maumee Bay, then the northern boundary of Ohio should be a line drawn from the southerly part of Lake Michigan to the north cape of the Maumee Bay.

The line of the ordinance was impossible, according to its instructions and the geography of the country.

When Michigan became a Territory, the people living between the "Fulton" and "Harris" lines found it more to their wishes to be attached to Michigan. They occupied disputed ground, and were thus beyond the limits of absolute law. In 1835, the subject was greatly agitated, and J. Q. Adams made a warm speech before Congress against the Ohio claim. The Legislature of Ohio discussed the matter, and an act was passed to attach the disputed section to Ohio, according to the constitutional decree. An active campaign opened between Michigan and Ohio. Gov. Lucas came out with the Ohio troops, in the spring of 1835, and Gov. Mason, of Michigan, followed the example. He marched into Toledo, robbed melon-patches and chicken-houses, crushed in the front door of Maj. Stickney's house, and carried him away prisoner of war. Embassadors were sent from Washington to negotiate matters—Richard Rush, of Pennsylvania and Col. Howard, of Maryland. At the next session of Congress, the matter was settled. Samuel Vinton argued for Ohio, in the House, and Thomas Ewing in the Senate. Michigan received an equivalent of the large peninsula between Lakes Huron, Michigan and Superior. Ohio received the disputed strip, averaging eight miles in width. Manhattan, Waterville and Providence are all flourishing towns.

Lorain County was formed from Huron, Cuyahoga and Medina, on December 26, 1822. The soil is generally fertile, and the surface level. Wheat, grass, oats, corn, rye and potatoes constitute the principal crops. Bog-iron ore is found in large quantities. A curious relic has been found in this county, bearing the date of 1533. Elyria is the county seat, and was laid out in 1817. The first settler was Mr. Heman Ely. Oberlin is situated about eight miles southwest of Elyria. The Oberlin Collegiate Institute has attained a wide celebrity.

Logan County was formed March 1, 1817. The surface is broken and hilly near the Mad River, but is generally level. The soil is fertile, producing

wheat, corn, rye, oats, clover, flax and timothy seed. The Shawnee Indians were located here, and built several villages on the Mad River. These towns were destroyed in 1786, by a body of Kentuckians, under Gen. Benjamin Logan. The whites surprised the towns. However, they returned after the work of destruction had been completed, and for many years frequented the section. On the site of Zanesfield was a Wyandot village. By the treaty of September 29, 1817, the Senecas and Shawnees held a reservation around Lewistown. April 6, 1832, they vacated this right and removed west. Isaac Zane was born about the year 1753, and was, while a boy, captured and afterward adopted by the Wyandots. Attaining the age of manhood, he had no desire to return to his people. He married a Wyandot woman, who was half French. After the treaty of Greenville, he bought 1,800 acres on the site of Zanesville, where he lived until the year 1816, when he died, lamented by all his friends.

Logan County was settled about the year 1806. During the war of 1812, it was a rendezvous for friendly Indians. Bellefontaine, the county seat, was laid out March 18, 1820, on land owned by John Tulles and William Powell. Joseph Gordon built a cabin, and Anthony Ballard erected the first frame dwelling.

Gen. Simon Kenton is buried at the head of Mad River, five miles from Bellefontaine. He died April 29, 1836, aged eighty-one years and twenty-six days. This remarkable man came West, to Kentucky, in 1771. He probably encountered more thrilling escapes than any other man of his time. In 1778, he was captured and suffered extreme cruelties, and was ransomed by the British. He soon recovered his robust health, and escaped from Detroit the following spring. He settled in Urbana in 1802. He was elected Brigadier General of the militia, and in the war of 1812, joined Gen. Harrison's army. In the year 1820, he removed to Mad River. Gen. Vance and Judge Burnet secured him a pension, of $20 per month

Licking County was formed from Fairfield March 1, 1808. The surface is generally level, diversified by slight hills in the eastern portion. The soil is fertile, producing wheat, corn, oats and grass. Coal and iron ore of good quality add to the wealth of the county. Wool and dairy productions are also staples. Newark is the county seat, and is situated at the confluence of the three principal branches of the Licking. It was laid out by Gen. William C. Schenk, George W. Burnet and John M. Cummings, who owned this military section of 4,000 acres, in 1801. In 1802, Samuel Elliott and Samuel Parr built hewed-log houses. The picturesque "Narrows of the Licking" are in the eastern part of the county, which have elicited general praise from scenic hunters.

Lawrence County was organized March 1, 1816. There are many high and abrupt hills in this section, which abound in sand or freestone. It is rich in minerals, and the most important section of Ohio for iron manufacture.

Coal is abundant, and white clay exists in the western part suitable for pottery purposes. Agricultural productions are not extensive.

The county was settled in 1797 by the Dutch and Irish. The iron region extends through the west part of this county. Lawrence County produces a superior quality of iron, highly esteemed for castings, and is equal to Scotch pig for furnace purposes. Burlington is the county seat.

Lake County was formed from Geauga and Cuyahoga March 6, 1840. The soil is good and the surface rolling. It produces wheat, corn, oats, buckwheat, barley, hay and potatoes. Dairy products, cattle and wool are also staples. Its fruits—apples, peaches, pears, plums and grapes are highly prized. As early as 1799, a settlement was formed at Mentor. Painesville, the county seat, is situated on Grand River, in a beautiful valley. The Painesville Academy is a classical institution for the education of both sexes. Near the town is the Geauga furnace. Painesville was laid out by Henry Champion in 1805. At Fairport, the first warehouse in this section, and probably the first on the lake, was built by Abraham Skinner in 1803. This town has a fine harbor, and has a light-house and beacon. Kirtland, southwest from Painesville, was, in 1834, the headquarters of the Mormons. At that time, they numbered about three thousand. The old Mormon temple is of rough stone, plastered over, colored blue, and marked to imitate regular courses of masonry. As is well known, the Mormons derive their name from the book of Mormon, said to have been translated from gold plates found in a hill in Palmyra, N. Y.

Madison County was organized in March, 1810. The surface is generally level. It produces grass, corn, oats and cattle—the latter forming a chief staple, while wool and pork add to the general wealth.

Jonathan Alder was much interested in the settlement of the county. He, like some other whites, had lived with the Indians many years, and had formed a lasting affection for them, and had married a squaw, with whom he became dissatisfied, which caused him to desire finding his own family. He succeeded in this through the assistance of John Moore. He left his wife and joined his people.

This county was first settled in 1795. Benjamin Springer made a clearing and built a cabin. He settled near Alder, and taught him the English language. Mr. Joshua Ewing brought four sheep to this place, and the Indians exhibited great astonishment over these strange animals. When the hostilities of 1812 began, the British offered inducements to the Indians to join them, and they consulted Alder regarding the best policy to adopt. He advised them to preserve neutrality until a later period, which they did, and eventually became firm friends of the Americans.

London is the county seat, and was laid out in 1810–11, by Patrick McLene.

Marion County was organized March 1, 1824. The soil is fertile, and produces extensive farm crops. The Delaware Indians once held a reservation here, and conceded their claims in 1829, August 3, and removed west of the

Mississippi. Marion, the county seat, was laid out in 1821, by Eber Baker and Alexander Holmes. Gen. Harrison marched through this section during his campaign.

Mahoning County was formed in 1846, from Trumbull and Columbiana. The surface is rolling and the soil generally fertile. The finer qualities of wood are produced here. Bituminous coal and iron are found in large quantities. Col. James Hillman came to the Western Reserve in 1786. The settlement of the county went forward. Canfield is the county seat.

Medina County was formed from the Western Reserve February 12, 1812. The surface is rolling and the soil is fertile, producing fine agricultural products. The first trail made through the county was made by George Poe, Joseph H. Larwell and Roswell M. Mason. The first settlement was made by Joseph Harris in 1811. He was soon joined by the Burr brothers. Medina is the county seat.

Meigs County was formed from Gallia and Athens April 1, 1819. The general character of the soil is clayey, producing large quantities of wheat, oats, corn, hay and potatoes. Vast quantities of salt are made and exported. Pomeroy, the county seat, is situated under a lofty hill, surrounded by picturesque scenery. Mr. Nathaniel Clark was the first settler of the county. He arrived in 1816. The first coal mine opened in Pomeroy was in 1819, by David Bradshaw.

Mercer County was formed from the Indian Territory in 1820. The surface is generally flat, and while covered with forests, inclined to be wet; but, being cleared, it is very fertile, and adapted to producing farm crops. St. Clair's Battle was fought on the boundary line between this and Darke County. The Hon. Lewis Cass and Duncan McArthur made a treaty at St. Mary's with the Wyandots, Shawnees and Ottawas, in 1818. The odious Simon Girty lived at one time at St. Mary's. Wayne built St. Mary's Fort, on the west bank of the river. John Whistler was the last commander of the fort. The largest artificial lake in the world, so it is asserted, is formed by the reservoir supplying the St. Mary's feeder of the Miami Extension Canal. It is about nine miles long, and from two to four broad. Celina is the county seat.

Miami County was formed January 16, 1807, from Montgomery. It abounds in excellent limestone, and possesses remarkable water-power facilities. Its agricultural products rank highly in quality and quantity. John Knoop came into this section about the year 1797, and its first settlement began about this time. Troy, the county seat, is situated upon the Great Miami. Piqua is another lovely town. The Miami River affords delightful scenery at this point.

Monroe County was formed January 29, 1813, from Belmont, Washington, and Guernsey. A portion of its surface is abrupt and hilly. Large quantities of tobacco are raised, and much pork is exported. Wheat and corn grow well in the western portion. Iron ore and coal abound. The valleys of the streams are very narrow, bounded by rough hills. In some places are natural rock grottoes. The first settlement was made in 1799, near the mouth of the Sunfish.

At this time, wolves were numerous, and caused much alarm. Volney entered this county, but was not prepossessed in its favor. One township is settled by the Swiss, who are educated and refined. Woodsfield is the county seat.

Montgomery County was formed from Ross and Hamilton May 1, 1803. The soil is fertile, and its agricultural products are most excellent. Quarries of grayish-white limestone are found east of the Miami.

Dayton is the county seat, situated on the Great Miami, at the mouth of Mad River. A company was formed in 1788, but Indian wars prevented settlement. After Wayne's treaty, in 1795, a new company was formed. It advanced rapidly between the years 1812 and 1820. The beginning of the Miami Canal renewed its prosperity, in 1827. The first canal-boat from Cincinnati arrived at Dayton on the 25th of January, 1829. The first one arrived from Lake Erie in June, 1845. Col. Robert Patterson came to Dayton in 1804. At one time, he owned Lexington, Ky., and about one third of Cincinnati.

Morgan County was organized in 1818, March 1. The surface is hilly and the soil strong and fertile, producing wheat, corn, oats and tobacco. Pork is a prolific product, and considerable salt is made. The first settlement was made in 1790, on the Muskingum. McConnelsville is the county seat. Mr. Ayres made the first attempt to produce salt, in 1817. This has developed into a large industry.

Morrow County was organized in 1848. It is drained by the Vernon River, which rises in it, by the East Branch of the Olontangy or Whetstone River, and by Walnut Creek. The surface is undulating, the soil fertile. The staple products are corn, wheat, oats, hay, wool and butter. The sugar maple abounds in the forests, and sandstone or freestone in the quarries. Mount Gilead, the county seat, is situated on the East Branch of the Olentangy River.

Muskingum County was formed from Washington and Fairfield. The surface is rolling or hilly. It produces wheat, corn, oats, potatoes, tobacco, wool and pork. Large quantities of bituminous coal are found. Pipe clay, buhrstone or cellular quartz are also in some portions of the State. Salt is made in large quantities—the fine being obtained from a stratum of whitish sandstone. The Wyandots, Delawares, Senecas and Shawanoese Indians once inhabited this section. An Indian town occupied the site of Duncan's Falls. A large Shawanoese town was located near Dresden.

Zanesville is the county seat, situated opposite the mouth of the Licking. It was laid out in 1799, by Mr. Zane and Mr. McIntire. This is one of the principal towns in the State, and is surrounded by charming scenery.

Noble County, organized in 1851, is drained by Seneca, Duck and Wills Creeks. The surface is undulating, and a large part of it is covered with forests. The soil is fertile. Its staples are corn, tobacco, wheat, hay, oats and wool. Among its mineral resources are limestone, coal and petroleum. Near Caldwell, the county seat, are found iron ore, coal and salt.

Ottawa County was formed from Erie, Sandusky and Lucas, March 6, 1840, It is mostly within the Black Swamp, and considerable of its land is prairie and marsh. It was very thinly settled before 1830. Extensive plaster beds exist on the peninsula, which extends into Lake Erie. It has also large limestone quarries, which are extensively worked. The very first trial at arms upon the soil of Ohio, during the war of 1812, occurred upon this peninsula. Port Clinton, the county seat, was laid out in 1827.

Perry County was formed from Washington, Fairfield and Muskingum, March 1, 1817. Fine tobacco is raised in large quantities. Wheat, corn, oats, hay, cattle, pork and wool add to the general wealth. This county was first settled in 1801. First settler was Christian Binckley, who built the first cabin in the county, about five miles west of Somerset, near the present county line. New Lexington is now the county seat.

Paulding County was formed from old Indian territory August 1, 1820. It produces corn, wheat and oats. Paulding is the county seat.

Pickaway County was formed from Fairfield, Ross and Franklin, January 12, 1810. The county has woodland, barren, plain and prairie. The barrens were covered by shrub oaks, and when cleared are adapted to the raising of corn and oats. The Pickaway plains are three and a half miles west of Circleville, and this tract is said to contain the richest land in Ohio. Here, in the olden times, burned the great council fires of the red man. Here the allied tribes met Gen. Lewis, who fought the battle of Point Pleasant. Dunmore's campaign was terminated on these plains. It was at the Chillicothe towns, after Dunmore's treaty, that Logan delivered his famous speech. Circleville, the county seat, is situated on the Scioto River and the Ohio Canal. It was laid out in 1810, by Daniel Dresbach. It is situated on the site of ancient fortifications.

Portage County was formed June 7, 1807, from Trumbull. It is a wealthy, thriving section. Over a thousand tons of cheese are annually produced. It also produces wheat, corn, oats, barley, buckwheat, rye, butter and wool. Ravenna is the county seat, and was originally settled by the Hon. Benjamin Tappen in June, 1799. In 1806, an unpleasant difficulty arose between the settlers and a camp of Indians in Deerfield, caused by a horse trade between a white man and an Indian. David Daniels settled on the site of Palmyra in 1799.

Pike County was organized in 1815. The surface is generally hilly, which abound with freestone, which is exported in large quantities for building purposes. Rich bottom lands extend along the Scioto and its tributaries. John Noland and the three Chenoweth brothers settled on the Pee Pee prairie about 1796. Piketown, the former county seat, was laid out about 1814. Waverly, the present county seat, is situated on the Scioto River.

Preble County was formed March 1, 1808, from Montgomery and Butler. The soil is varied. Excellent water-power facilities are furnished.

Eaton, the county seat, was laid out in 1806, by William Bruce, who owned the land. An overflowing well of strong sulphur water is near the town, while directly beside it is a limestone quarry. Holderman's quarry is about two

miles distant, from which is obtained a beautifully clouded gray stone. Fort St. Clair was built near Eaton, in the winter of 1791–92. Gen. Harrison was an Ensign at the time, and commanded a guard every other night for three weeks, during the building. The severe battle of November 6, 1792, was fought under its very guns. Little Turtle, a distinguished chief of the Miamis, roamed over this county for a time. He was witty, brave and earnest, and, although engaged in several severe contests with the whites, he was inclined toward peace. But when his warriors cried for war he led them bravely.

Putnam County was formed April 1, 1820, from old Indian territory. The soil is fertile, its principal productions being wheat, corn, potatoes and oats. Large quantities of pork are exported. Kalida, once the county seat, was laid out in 1834. Ottawa is the county seat.

Ross County was formed August 20, 1798, by the proclamation of Gov. St. Clair, and was the sixth county formed in the Northwestern Territory. The Scioto River and Paint Creek run through it, bordered with fertile lands. Much water-power is obtained from the many streams watering it. The main crops are wheat, corn and oats. It exports cattle and hogs.

The Rev. Robert W. Finley, in 1794, addressed a letter of inquiry to Col. Nathaniel Massie, as many of his associates had designed settling in the new State. This resulted in packing their several effects and setting out. A trivial Indian encounter was the only interruption they met with on their way. After Wayne's treaty, Col. Massie and many of these early explorers met again and formed a settlement—in 1796—at the mouth of Paint Creek. In August of this year, Chillicothe was laid out by Col. Massie, in a dense forest. He donated lots to the early settlers. A ferry was established over the Scioto, and the opening of Zane's trace assisted the progress of settlement.

Chillicothe, the county seat, is situated on the Scioto. Its site is thirty feet above the river. In 1800, it was the seat of the Northwestern Territorial Government. It was incorporated as a city in January, 1802. During the war of 1812, the city was a rendezvous for the United States troops. A large number of British were at one time guarded here. Adena is a beautiful place, and the seat of Gov. Worthington's mansion, which was built in 1806. Near this is Fruit Hill, the residence of the late Gen. McArthur, and latterly the home of his son-in-law, the Hon. William Allen. Eleven miles from Chillicothe, on the road to Portsmouth, is the home of the hermit of the Scioto.

Richland was organized March 1, 1813. It produces wheat, corn, oats, hay, potatoes, rye, hemp and barley. It was settled about 1809, on branches of the Mohican. Two block-houses were built in 1812. Mansfield, the county seat, is charmingly situated, and was laid out in 1808, by Jacob Newman, James Hedges and Joseph H. Larwell. The county was at that period a vast wilderness, destitute of roads. From this year, the settlement progressed rapidly.

Sandusky County was formed April 1, 1820, from the old Indian Territory. The soil is fertile, and country generally level. It mainly produces corn, wheat,

oats, potatoes and pork. The Indians were especially delighted with this tract. Near Lower Sandusky lived a band of Wyandots, called the Neutral Nation. These two cities never failed to render refuge to any who sought their protection. They preserved their peacemaking attributes through the Iroquois conflicts. Fremont, formerly called Lower Sandusky, the county seat, is situated at the head of navigation, on the Sandusky, on the site of the old reservation grant to the Indians, at the Greenville treaty council. Fort Stephenson was erected in August, 1813, and was gallantly defended by Col. Croghan.

Summit County was formed March 3, 1840, from Medina, Portage and Stark. The soil is fertile and produces excellent fruit, besides large crops of corn, wheat, hay, oats and potatoes. Cheese and butter may be added as products.

The first settlement made in the county was at Hudson, in 1800. The old Indian portage-path, extending through this county, between the Cuyahoga, and Tuscarawas Branch of the Muskingum. This was a part of the ancient boundary between the Six Nations and the Western Indians. Akron, the county seat, is situated on the portage summit. It was laid out in 1825. In 1811, Paul Williams and Amos and Minor Spicer settled in this vicinity. Middlebury was laid out in 1818, by Norton & Hart.

Stark County was formed February 13, 1808. It is a rich agricultural county. It has large quantities of mineral coal, iron ore, flocks of the finest sheep and great water-power. Limestone and extensive beds of lime-marl exist. The manufacture of silk has been extensively carried on. Frederick Post, the first Moravian missionary in Ohio, settled here in 1761.

Canton is the county seat, situated in the forks of the Nimishillen, a tributary of the Muskingum. It was laid out in 1806, by Bezaleel Wells, who owned the land. Massillon was laid out in March, 1826, by John Duncan.

Shelby County was formed in 1819, from Miami. The southern portion is undulating, arising in some places to hills. Through the north, it is a flat tableland. It produces wheat, corn, oats and grass. The first point of English settlement in Ohio was at the mouth of Laramie's Creek, in this county, as early as 1752. Fort Laramie was built in 1794, by Wayne. The first white family that settled in this county was that of James Thatcher, in 1804. Sidney, the county seat, was laid out in 1819, on the farm of Charles Starrett.

Seneca County was formed April 1, 1820, from the old Indian territory. Its principal products are corn, wheat, grass, oats, potatoes and pork.

Fort Seneca was built during the war of 1812. The Senecas owned 40,000 acres of land on the Sandusky River, mostly in Seneca County. Thirty thousand acres of this land was granted to them in 1817, at the treaty held at the foot of the Maumee Rapids. The remaining 10,000 was granted the following year. These Indians ceded this tract, however, to the Government in 1831. It was asserted by an old chief, that this band was the remnant

of Logan's tribe. Tiffin, the county seat, was laid out by Josiah Hedges in the year 1821.

Scioto County was formed May 1, 1803. It is a good agricultural section, besides producing iron ore, coal and freestone. It is said that a French fort stood at the mouth of the old Scioto, as early as 1740. In 1785, four families settled where Portsmouth now stands. Thomas McDonald built the first cabin in the county. The "French grant" was located in this section—a tract comprising 24,000 acres. The grant was made in March, 1795. Portsmouth, the county seat, is located upon the Ohio.

Trumbull County was formed in 1800. The original Connecticut Western Reserve was within its limits. The county is well cultivated and very wealthy. Coal is found in its northern portion. We have, in our previous outline, given a history of this section, and it is not, therefore, necessary to repeat its details. Warren, the county seat, is situated on the Mahoning River. It was laid out by Ephraim Quinby in 1801. Mr. Quinby owned the soil. His cabin was built here in 1799. In August, 1800, while Mr. McMahon was away from home, a party of drunken Indians called at the house, abused the family, struck a child a severe blow with a tomahawk and threatened to kill the family. Mrs. McMahon could not send tidings which could reach her husband before noon the following day. The following Sunday morning, fourteen men and two boys armed themselves and went to the Indian camp to settle the difficulty. Quinby advanced alone, leaving the remainder in concealment, as he was better acquainted with these people, to make inquiries and ascertain their intentions. He did not return at once, and the party set out, marched into camp, and found Quinby arguing with Capt. George, the chief. Capt. George snatched his tomahawk and declared war, rushing forward to kill McMahon. But a bullet from the frontierman's gun killed him instantly, while Storey shot "Spotted John" at the same time. The Indians then fled. They joined the council at Sandusky. Quinby garrisoned his house. Fourteen days thereafter, the Indians returned with overtures of peace, which were, that McMahon and Storey be taken to Sandusky, tried by Indian laws, and if found guilty, punished by them. This could not be done. McMahon was tried by Gen. St. Clair, and the matter was settled. The first missionary on the Reserve was the Rev. Joseph Badger.

Tuscarawas County was formed February 15, 1808, from Muskingum. It is well cultivated with abundant supplies of coal and iron.

The first white settlers were Moravian missionaries, their first visits dating back to 1761. The first permanent settlement was made in 1798. Miss Mary Heckewelder, the daughter of a missionary, was born in this county April 16, 1781. Fort Laurens was built during the Revolution. It was the scene of a fearful carnage. It was established in the fall of 1778, and placed under the command of Gen. McIntosh. New Philadelphia is the county seat, situated on the Tuscarawas. It was laid out in 1804 by John Knisely. A German

colony settled in this county in 1817, driven from their native land by religious dictation they could not espouse. They called themselves Separatists. They are a simple-minded people, strictly moral and honest.

Union County was formed from Franklin, Delaware, Logan and Madison in 1820. It produces corn, grass, wheat, oats, potatoes, butter and cheese. Extensive limestone quarries are also valuable. The Ewing brothers made the first white settlement in 1798. Col. James Curry, a member of the State Legislature, was the chief instigator in the progress of this section. He located within its limits and remained until his death, which occurred in 1834. Marysville is the county seat.

Van Wert County was formed from the old Indian territory April 1, 1820. A great deal of timber is within the limits of this county, but the soil is so tenacious that water will not sink through it, and crops are poor during wet seasons. The main product is corn. Van Wert, the county seat, was founded by James W. Riley in 1837. An Indian town had formerly occupied its site. Capt. Riley was the first white man who settled in the county, arriving in 1821. He founded Willshire in 1822.

Vinton County was organized in 1850. It is drained by Raccoon and Salt Creeks. The surface is undulating or hilly, and is extensively covered with forests in which the oak, buckeye and sugar maple are found. Corn, hay, butter and wool are staple products. Bituminous coal and iron ore are found. McArthur is the county seat.

Washington County was formed by proclamation of Gov. St. Clair July 27, 1788, and was the first county founded within the limits of Ohio. The surface is broken with extensive tracts of level, fertile land. It was the first county settled in the State under the auspices of the Ohio Company. A detachment of United States troops, under command of Maj. John Doughty, built Fort Harmar in 1785, and it was the first military post established in Ohio by Americans, with the exception of Fort Laurens, which was erected in 1778. It was occupied by United States troops until 1790, when they were ordered to Connecticut. A company under Capt. Haskell remained. In 1785, the Directors of the Ohio Company began practical operations, and settlement went forward rapidly. Campus Martius, a stockade fort, was completed in 1791. This formed a sturdy stronghold during the war. During the Indian war there was much suffering in the county. Many settlers were killed and captured.

Marietta is the county seat, and the oldest town in Ohio. Marietta College was chartered in 1835. Herman Blannerhassett, whose unfortunate association with Aaron Burr proved fatal to himself, was a resident of Marietta in 1796. About the year 1798, he began to beautify and improve his island.

Warren County was formed May 1, 1803, from Hamilton. The soil is very fertile, and considerable water-power is furnished by its streams. Mr. Bedell made the first settlement in 1795. Lebanon is the county seat. Henry

Taylor settled in this vicinity in 1796. Union Village is a settlement of Shakers. They came here about 1805.

Wayne County was proclaimed by Gov. St. Clair August 15, 1796, and was the third county in the Northwest Territory. The settlement of this section has already been briefly delineated. Wooster is the county seat. It was laid out during the fall of 1808, by John Beaver, William Henry and Joseph H. Larwell, owners of the land. Its site is 337 feet above Lake Erie. The first mill was built by Joseph Stibbs, in 1809, on Apple Creek. In 1812, a block house was erected in Wooster.

Wood County was formed from the old Indian territory in 1820. The soil is rich, and large crops are produced. The county is situated within the Maumee Valley. It was the arena of brilliant military exploits during early times. Bowling Green is the county seat.

Williams County was formed April 1, 1820, from the old Indian territory. Bryan is the county seat. It was laid out in 1840.

Wyandot County was formed February 3, 1845, from Marion, Hardin, Hancock and Crawford. The surface is level, and the soil exceedingly fertile. The Wyandot Indians occupied this section, especially the reservation, from time immemorial until 1843. The treaty of 1817, by Hon. Lewis Cass and Hon. Duncan McArthur, United States Commissioners, granted to the Indians a reservation twelve miles square, the central point being Fort Ferree, now within the corporate limits of Upper Sandusky. The Delaware Reserve was ceded to the United States in 1829. The Wyandots ceded theirs March 17, 1842. Col. John Johnston, the United States Commissioner, conducted the negotiations, and thus made the Indian treaty in Ohio. It was the scene of Col. Crawford's defeat and tragic death, June 11, 1782. The Wyandots were exceedingly brave, and several of their chiefs were distinguished orators and men of exalted moral principles.

Upper Sandusky is the county seat, and was laid out in 1843. Gen. Harrison had built Fort Ferree on this spot during the war of 1812. Gov. Meigs, in 1813, encamped on this river with several thousand of the Ohio militia.

The Indian village of Crane Town was originally called Upper Sandusky. The Indians, after the death of Tarhe, or "the Crane," transferred their town to Upper Sandusky.

GOVERNORS OF OHIO.

The Territorial Governors we have already mentioned in the course of our brief review of the prominent events of the State of Ohio. After the Territory was admitted as a State, in 1802, Edward Tiffin was elected to that position, and again received the same honor in 1804 and 1806. In 1807, circumstances led him to resign, and Thomas Kirker, Speaker of the Senate, acted as Governor until the close of the term.

Edward Tiffin was born in Carlisle, England, coming to this country in 1784, at the age of eighteen. He entered the University of Pennsylvania, and applied himself to the study of medicine, graduating and beginning his practice at the age of twenty, in the State of Virginia. In 1789, he married Mary,

daughter of Col. Worthington, and sister of Thomas Worthington, who subsequently became Governor of Ohio. In his profession, Gov. Tiffin was highly esteemed, and his public labors were carried forward with a zealous earnestness which marked his career as one of usefulness. He settled in Chillicothe, Ohio, in 1796, where he died, in 1829.

Samuel Huntington, the recipient of the honor of third Governor, was inaugurated in 1808. He was an American by birth, Norwich, Conn., being his native place. He was a diligent student in Yale College, graduating in 1785. He removed to Cleveland, Ohio, in 1801. He attained a reputation for integrity, ability and rare discretion. As a scholar, he was eminently superior. He resided in Cleveland at the time of his death, in 1817.

Return Jonathan Meigs followed Gov. Huntington. He was born in Middletown, Conn., in 1765. He was also a student in Yale College, graduating in 1785, with the highest honors. He immediately entered the study of law, and was admitted to practice in his twenty-third year. He married Miss Sophia Wright, and settled in Marietta, Ohio, in 1788. He took his seat as Governor in 1810, and was re-elected in 1812. In 1813, President Madison appointed him to the position of Postmaster General, which occasioned his resignation as Governor. Othniel Looker, Speaker of the Senate, acted as Governor during the remainder of the term. Mr. Meigs died in 1825, leaving as a memento of his usefulness, a revered memory.

Thomas Worthington, the sixth Governor, was born in Jefferson County, Va., in 1769. He gained an education in William and Mary's College. In 1788, he located at Chillicothe, and was the first Senator from the new State. He was also the first man to erect the first saw-mill in Ohio. He served two terms as Senator, from 1803 to 1815, resigning in 1814, to take his position as Governor. In 1816, he was re-elected. He was exceedingly active in paving the way for the future prosperity of Ohio. His measures were famous for practical worth and honesty. Chief Justice Chase designated him as "a gentleman of distinguished ability and great influence." He died in 1827.

Ethan Allen Brown followed Mr. Worthington. His birthplace was on the shore of Long Island Sound, in Fairfield County, Conn., July 4, 1766. His education was derived under the most judicious instruction of a private tutor. In classics, he became proficient. Directly he had reached the required standard in general education, he began the study of law, at home. After becoming conversant with preliminary requirements, he entered the law office of Alexander Hamilton, who at that time was a national pride, as a scholar, lawyer and statesman. Opportunities coming in his way, which promised a fortune, he abandoned the law, and achieved success and a fortune. He then decided to return to his study, and was admitted to practice in 1802. Thereafter, he was seized with an exploring enthusiasm, and with his cousin as a companion, set out upon a horseback tour, following the Indian trails from east to west, through Pennsylvania, until they reached Brownsville, on the Monongahela River. Here

they purchased two flatboats, and fully stocking them with provisions and obtaining efficient crews, started for New Orleans. Reaching that city, they found they could not dispose of their cargoes to any advantage, and shipped the four to Liverpool, England, taking passage in the same vessel. They succeeded in obtaining good prices for their stock, and set sail for America, arriving in Baltimore nine months after first leaving "home," on this adventure. Mr. Brown's father decided to secure a large and valuable tract of Western land, as a permanent home, and authorized his son to select and purchase the same for him. He found what he desired, near Rising Sun, Ind. After this, he settled in Cincinnati, and engaged in the practice of law, speedily achieving prominency and distinction. Financially, he was most fortunate. In 1810, he was elected Judge of the Supreme Court, which position he filled with honor, until he was chosen Governor, in 1818. He was re-elected in 1820. In 1821, he received the honor of Senator, and served one term. Allen Trimble, Speaker of the Senate, acted as Governor the remainder of the term. In 1830 he was appointed Minister to Brazil. He remained there four years, and returning, was appointed Commissioner of Public Lands, by President Jackson, holding this position two years. At this time, he decided to retire from public life. Since he never married, he was much with his relatives, at Rising Sun, Ind., during the latter part of his life. His death was sudden and unexpected, occurring in February, 1852, while attending a Democratic Convention, at Indianapolis, Ind. He was interred near his father, at Rising Sun.

Jeremiah Morrow, the ninth Governor of Ohio, was born at Gettysburg, Penn., in October, 1771. His people were of the "Scotch-Irish" class, and his early life was one of manual labor upon his father's farm. During the winter, he had the privilege of a private school. With a view of establishing himself and securing a competency, he bade the old home farewell, in 1795, and set out for the "Far West." A flatboat carried him to a little cluster of cabins, known by the name of Columbia, six miles from Fort Washington—Cincinnati. He devoted himself to whatever came in his way, that seemed best and most worthy —teaching school, surveying and working on farms between times. Having accumulated a small capital, he ascended the Little Miami, as far as Warren County, and there purchased an extensive farm, and erected an excellent log house. In the spring of 1799, he married Miss Mary Packtrell, of Columbia. The young couple set out upon pioneer farming. Gaining popularity as well as a desirable property, he was deputized to the Territorial Legislature, which met at Chillicothe, at which time measures were inaugurated to call a Constitutional Convention, during the following year, to organize the State of Ohio. Mr. Morrow was one of the Delegates to this convention, and steadfastly worked in the interests of those who sent him, until its close in 1802. The following year, he was elected to the Senate of Ohio, and in June of the same year, he was appointed the first Representative to the United States Congress from the new State.

Ohio was then entitled to but one Representative in Congress, and could not add to that number for ten years thereafter. During these years, Mr. Morrow represented the State. In 1813, he was sent to the United States Senate, and in 1822, was elected Governor of Ohio, almost unanimously, being re-elected in 1824. It was during his administration that work was begun on the Ohio Canal. Mr. Morrow received the national guest, La Fayette, with an earnest and touching emotion, which affected the emotions of the generous Frenchman more profoundly than any of the elaborate receptions which paved his way through America. On the 4th of July, 1839, Gov. Morrow was appointed to lay the corner stone of the new State capitol, at Columbus, and to deliver the address on this occasion. Again, in 1840, he was in the House of Representatives, filling the vacancy caused by the resignation of Hon. Thomas Corwin. He was elected for the following term also. He died at his own homestead, in Warren County, March 22, 1853.

Allen Trimble was a native of Augusta County, Va. The date of his birth was November 24, 1783. His ancestors were of Scotch-Irish origin, and were among the early settlers of Virginia. His father moved to Ohio in 1804, purchasing a tract of land in Highland County. His cabin was remarkably spacious, and elicited the admiration of his neighbors. He cleared six acres of land for an orchard, and brought the trees on horseback, from Kentucky. Before this new home was completed, Allen, then a young man of twenty, took possession. This was in the year 1805. Four years thereafter, he occupied the position of Clerk of the Court of Common Pleas and Recorder of Highland County. He was serving in the latter capacity at the breaking out of the war of 1812. Naturally enthusiastic and patriotic, he engaged a competent person to perform his civil duties, while he went into active service as Colonel of a regiment he had summoned and enlisted. He was always eager to be in the front, and led his men with such valor that they were termed soldiers who did not know the art of flinching. His commanding General lavished praises upon him. In 1816, he was in the State Senate, representing Highland County. He occupied the same position for four terms, two years each. In 1818, he was Speaker of the Senate, over Gen. Robert Lucas. He remained in this office until elected to the United States Senate, to fill the vacancy caused by the death of his brother, Col. William A. Trimble. When Governor Brown resigned to accept the office of United States Senator in 1822, he succeeded to the office, acting as Governor the remainder of the term. In October, 1826, he was elected Governor of Ohio, by an astonishing majority. The united vote of his three competitors was but one-sixth of the vote polled. Gov. Trimble was an earnest Henry Clay Whig. In 1828 he was re-elected. Gov. Trimble was married in 1806 to Miss Margaret McDowell. Three years thereafter she died, leaving two children. He was united in marriage to Miss Rachel Woodrow, and they lived together sixty years, when he died, at home, in Hillsboro, Highland County, Feb. 3, 1870. His wife survived him but a few months.

Duncan McArthur, the tenth Governor of Ohio, was born in Dutchess County, N. Y., in 1772. While yet a child, his parents removed to the western part of Pennsylvania, where they entered upon the hard life of pioneers. While there, young Duncan had the meager advantages of a backwoods school. His life was a general routine until his eighteenth year, when he enlisted under Gen. Harmer for the Indian campaign. His conduct and bravery won worthy laurels, and upon the death of the commander of his company, he was elected to that position, although the youngest man in the company. When his days of service had expired, he found employment at salt-making in Maysville, Ky., until he was engaged as chain-bearer in Gen. Massie's survey of the Scioto Valley. At this time, Indian atrocities alarmed the settlers occasionally, and his reputation for bravery caused him to be appointed one of the three patrols of the Kentucky side of the Ohio, to give the alarm to scattered cabins in case of danger. This was during the summer of 1793. Gen. Massie again secured his services, this time as assistant surveyor. He was thus engaged for several years, during which time he assisted in platting Chillicothe. He purchased a large tract of land just north of town, and under his vigorous and practical management, it became one of the finest estates of Ohio, which reputation it sustains at the present time. He amassed wealth rapidly, his investments always being judicious. In 1805, he was elected to the State Legislature. He was a Colonel of an Ohio regiment, and accompanied Gen. Hull to Detroit in 1813. At Hull's surrender he was a prisoner, but released on parole, returned to Ohio in a state of indignation over his commander's stupidity. Soon thereafter he was sent to Congress on the Democratic ticket. Soon thereafter he was released from parole by exchange, and, greatly rejoiced, he resigned his seat, entered the army as a Brigadier General under Gen. Harrison, and the following year succeeded him as commander of the Northwestern forces. At the termination of the war, he was immediately returned to the State Legislature. He occupied State offices until 1822, when he was again sent to Congress. Serving one term, he declined re-election. In 1830, he was elected Governor of Ohio. When his term expired, he decided to enjoy life as a citizen on his farm, "Fruit Hill," and lived there in contentment until 1840, when he died.

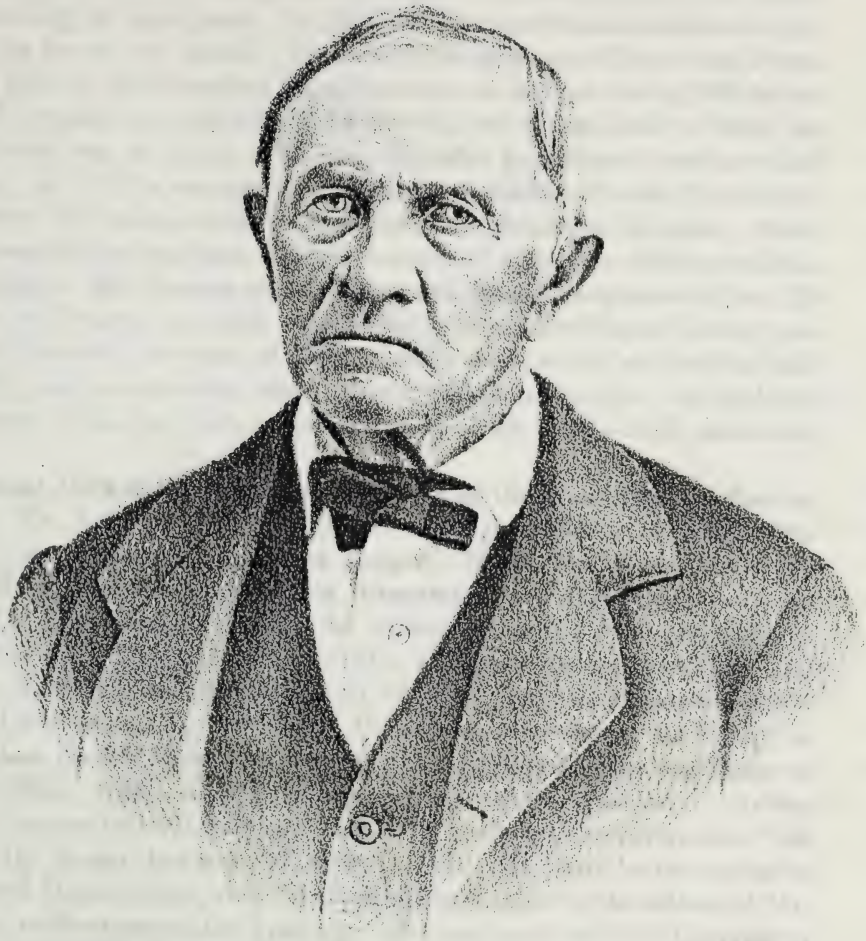
Robert Lucas was another Virginian, having been born in 1781, in Jefferson County of that State. While a boy, his father liberated his slaves, moving to Chillicothe as one of the early settlers. He procured a proficient tutor for his children. Robert became an expert in mathematics and surveying. Before he reached his majority, he was employed as surveyor, earning liberal compensation. At the age of twenty-three, he was appointed Surveyor of Scioto County. At twenty-five, he was Justice of the Peace for Union Township, Scioto County. He married Miss Elizabeth Brown in 1810, who died two years thereafter, leaving a young daughter. In 1816, he married Miss Sumner. The same year he was elected a member of the Ohio Legislature. For

nineteen consecutive years he served in the House or Senate. In 1820 and 1828, he was chosen one of the Presidential electors of Ohio. In 1832, he was Chairman of the National Convention at Baltimore, which nominated Gen. Jackson as President of the United States. In 1832, he became Governor of Ohio, and was re-elected in 1834. He declined a third nomination, and was appointed by President Van Buren Territorial Governor of Iowa and Superintendent of Indian Affairs. On the 16th of August, 1838, he reached Burlington, the seat of government. He remained in Iowa until his death, in 1853.

Joseph Vance, the twelfth Governor of Ohio, was born in Washington County, Penn., March 21, 1781. He was of Scotch-Irish descent, and his father emigrated to the new Territory when Joseph was two years of age. He located on the southern bank of the Ohio, building a solid block house. This formed a stronghold for his neighbors in case of danger. In 1801, this pioneer decided to remove north of the Ohio River, and eventually settled in Urbana. Joseph had the primitive advantages of the common schools, and became proficient in handling those useful implements—the plow, ax and rifle. The first money he earned he invested in a yoke of oxen. He obtained several barrels of salt, and set out on a speculative tour through the settlements. He traveled through a wilderness, over swamps, and surmounted serious difficulties. At night he built a huge fire to terrify the wolves and panthers, and laid down to sleep beside his oxen, frequently being obliged to stand guard to protect them from these ferocious creatures. Occasionally he found a stream so swollen that necessarily he waited hours and even days in the tangled forest, before he could cross. He often suffered from hunger, yet he sturdily persevered and sold his salt, though a lad of only fifteen years. When he attained his majority, he married Miss Mary Lemen, of Urbana. At twenty-three, he was elected Captain of a rifle company, and frequently led his men to the front to fight the Indians prior to the war of 1812. During that year, he and his brother piloted Hull's army through the dense forests to Fort Meigs. In 1817, with Samuel McCullough and Henry Van Meter, he made a contract to supply the Northwestern army with provisions. They drove their cattle and hogs many miles, dead weight being transported on sleds and in wagons. He engaged in mercantile business at Urbana and Fort Meigs—now Perrysburg.

While thus employed, he was elected to the Legislature, and there remained four years. He then purchased a large tract of land on Blanchard's Fork, and laid out the town of Findlay. He was sent to Congress in 1821, and was a member of that body for fifteen years. In 1836, he was chosen Governor of Ohio. Again he was sent to Congress in 1842. While attending the Constitutional Convention in 1850, he was stricken with paralysis, and suffered extremely until 1852, when he died at his home in Urbana.

Wilson Shannon was a native of Belmont County, Ohio. He was born during 1803. At the age of fifteen, he was sent to the university at Athens,



Jacob Feller



where he remained a year, and then changed to the Transylvania University, at Lexington, Ky. He continued his studies two years, then returning home and entering upon reading law. He completed his course at St. Clairsville, Belmont County, and was admitted to practice. He was engaged in the courts of the county for eight years. In 1832, the Democrats nominated him to Congress, but he was not elected. He received the position of Prosecuting Attorney in 1834, in which position his abilities were so marked that in 1838 he was elected Governor by a majority of 3,600. He was re-nominated in 1840, but Tom Corwin won the ticket. Two years thereafter he was again nominated and elected. In 1843 he was appointed Minister to Mexico, Thomas W. Bartley, Speaker of the Senate, acting as Governor the remainder of the term. When Texas was admitted as a State, Mexico renounced all diplomatic relations with the United States. Mr. Shannon returned hom and resumed the practice of law. He was sent to Congress in 1852. President Pierce conferred upon him the position of Territorial Governor of Kansas, which duty he did not perform satisfactorily, and was superseded after fourteen months of service. He settled in Lecompton, Kan., and there practiced law until his death, which occurred in 1877.

Thomas Corwin, the fourteenth Governor of Ohio, was born in Bourbon County, Ky., July 29, 1794. His father settled at Lebanon in 1798. The country was crude, and advantages meager. When Thomas was seventeen years of age, the war of 1812 was inaugurated, and this young man was engaged to drive a wagon through the wilderness, loaded with provisions, to Gen. Harrison's headquarters. In 1816, he began the study of law, and achieved knowledge so rapidly that in 1817 he passed examination and was admitted to practice. He was elected Prosecuting Attorney of his county, in 1818, which position he held until 1830. He was elected to the Legislature of Ohio in 1822. Again, in 1829, he was a member of the same body. He was sent to Congress in 1830, and continued to be re-elected for the space of ten years. He became Governor of Ohio in 1840. In 1845, he was elected to the United States Senate, where he remained until called to the cabinet of Mr. Fillmore, as Secretary of the Treasury. He was again sent to Congress in 1858, and re-elected in 1860. He was appointed Minister to Mexico, by President Lincoln. After his return, he practiced law in Washington, D. C., where he died in 1866.

Mordecai Bartley was born in 1783, in Fayette County, Penn. There he remained, on his father's farm, until he was twenty-one years of age. He married Miss Wells in 1804, and removed to Jefferson County, Ohio, where he purchased a farm, near Cross Creek. At the opening of the war of 1812, he enlisted in a company, and was elected its Captain. He entered the field under Harrison. At the close of the war, he removed to Richland County, and opened a clearing and set up a cabin, a short distance from Mansfield. He remained on his farm twenty years, then removing to Mansfield, entered the mercantile

business. In 1817, he was elected to the State Senate. He was sent to Congress in 1823, and served four terms. In 1844, he became Governor of Ohio, on the Whig ticket. He declined a re-nomination, preferring to retire to his home in Mansfield, where he died in 1870.

William Bebb, the seventeenth Governor, was from Hamilton County, Ohio. He was born in 1804. His early instructions were limited, but thorough. He opened a school himself, when he was twenty years of age, at North Bend, residing in the house of Gen. Harrison. He remained thus employed a year, during which time he married Shuck. He very soon began the study of law, continuing his school. He was successful in his undertakings, and many pupils were sent him from the best families in Cincinnati. In 1831, he was admitted to practice, and opened an office in Hamilton, Butler County, remaining thus engaged for fourteen years. In 1845, he was elected Governor of Ohio. In 1847, he purchased 5,000 acres of land in the Rock River country, Ill., and removed there three years later. On the inauguration of President Lincoln, he was appointed Pension Examiner, at Washington, and remained in that position until 1866, when he returned to his Illinois farm. He died at Rockford, Ill., in 1873.

Seabury Ford, the eighteenth Governor of Ohio, was born in the year 1802, at Cheshire, Conn. His parents settled in Burton Township. He attended the common schools, prepared for college at an academy in Burton, and entered Yale College, in 1821, graduating in 1825. He then began the study of law, in the law office of Samuel W. Phelps, of Painesville, completing his course with Judge Hitchcock. He began practice in 1827, in Burton. He married Miss Harriet E. Cook, of Burton, in 1828. He was elected by the Whigs to the Legislature, in 1835, and served six sessions, during one of which he was Speaker of the House. He entered the State Senate in 1841, and there remained until 1844, when he was again elected Representative. In 1846, he was appointed to the Senate, and in 1848, he became Governor of Ohio. On the first Sunday after his retirement, he was stricken with paralysis, from which he never recovered. He died at his home in Burton in 1855.

Reuben Wood, the nineteenth Governor, was a Vermonter. Born in 1792, in Middleton, Rutland County, he was a sturdy son of the Green Mountain State. He was a thorough scholar, and obtained a classical education in Upper Canada. In 1812, he was drafted by the Canadian authorities to serve against the Americans, but being determined not to oppose his own land, he escaped one stormy night, accompanied by Bill Johnson, who was afterward an American spy. In a birchbark canoe they attempted to cross Lake Ontario. A heavy storm of wind and rain set in. The night was intensely dark, and they were in great danger. They fortunately found refuge on a small island, where they were storm-bound three days, suffering from hunger and exposure. They reached Sacket's Harbor at last, in a deplorable condition. Here they were arrested as spies by the patrol boats of the American fleet. They were prisoners

four days, when an uncle of Mr. Wood's, residing not far distant, came to their rescue, vouched for their loyalty, and they were released. Mr. Wood then went to Woodville, N. Y., where he raised a company, of which he was elected Captain. They marched to the northern frontier. The battles of Plattsburg and Lake Champlain were fought, the enemy defeated, and the company returned to Woodville and was disbanded.

Young Wood then entered the law office of Gen. Jonas Clark, at Middlebury, Vt. He was married in 1816, and two years later, settled in Cleveland, Ohio. When he first established himself in the village, he possessed his wife, infant daughter and a silver quarter of a dollar. He was elected to the State Senate in 1825, and filled the office three consecutive terms. He was appointed Judge of the Court of Common Pleas. He was promoted to the Bench of the Supreme Court, serving there fourteen years, the latter portion of the term as Chief Justice. He was termed the "Cayuga Chief," from his tall form and courtly bearing. He was elected Governor in 1850, by a majority of 11,000. The new constitution, which went into effect in March, 1851, vacated the office of Governor, and he was re-elected by a majority of 26,000. The Democrats holding a national convention in Baltimore in 1852, party division caused fifty unavailing votes. The Virginia delegation offered the entire vote to Gov. Wood, if Ohio would bring him forward. The opposition of one man prevented this. The offer was accepted by New Hampshire, and Frank Pierce became President. Mr. Wood was appointed Consul to Valparaiso, South America, and resigned his office of Governor. He resigned his consulship and returned to his fine farm near Cleveland, called "Evergreen Place." He expected to address a Union meeting on the 5th of October, 1864, but on the 1st he died, mourned by all who knew him.

William Medill, the twentieth Governor, was born in New Castle County, Del., in 1801. He was a graduate of Delaware College in 1825. He began the study of law under Judge Black, of New Castle, and was admitted to the bar in 1832. He removed to Lancaster, Ohio, in 1830. He was elected Representative from Fairfield County in 1835. He was elected to Congress in 1838, and was re-elected in 1840. He was appointed Assistant Postmaster General by President Polk. During the same year, he was appointed Commissioner of Indian Affairs. In 1851, he was elected Lieutenant Governor, and, in 1853, he became Governor. He occupied the position of First Comptroller of the United States Treasury in 1857, under President Buchanan, retaining the office until 1861, when he retired from public life. His death occurred in 1865.

Salmon P. Chase was a native of Cornish, N. H. He was born in 1803. He entered Dartmouth College in 1822, graduating in 1826. He was thereafter successful in establishing a classical school in Washington, but financially it did not succeed. He continued to teach the sons of Henry Clay, William Wirt and S. L. Southard, at the same time reading law when not busy

as tutor. He was admitted to practice in 1829, and opened a law office in Cincinnati. He succeeded but moderately, and during his leisure hours prepared a new edition of the "Statutes of Ohio." He added annotations and a well-written sketch of the early history of the State. This was a thorough success, and gave the earnest worker popularity and a stepping-stone for the future. He was solicitor for the banks of the United States in 1834, and soon thereafter, for the city banks. He achieved considerable distinction in 1837, in the case of a colored woman brought into the State by her master, and escaping his possession. He was thus brought out as an Abolitionist, which was further sustained by his defense of James G. Birney, who had suffered indictment for harboring a fugitive slave. In 1846, associated with William H. Seward, he defended Van Zandt before the Supreme Court of the United States. His thrilling denunciations and startling conjectures alarmed the slaveholding States, and subsequently led to the enactment of the fugitive-slave law of 1850. Mr. Chase was a member of the United States Senate in 1849, through the coalition of the Democrats and Free-Soilers. In 1855, he was elected Governor of Ohio by the opponents of Pierce's administration. He was re-elected in 1859. President Lincoln, in 1861, tendered him the position of Secretary of the Treasury. To his ability and official management we are indebted for the present national bank system. In 1864, he was appointed Chief Justice of the United States. He died in the city of New York in 1873, after a useful career.

William Dennison was born in Cincinnati in 1815. He gained an education at Miami University, graduating in 1835. He began the study of law in the office of the father of George H. Pendleton, and was qualified and admitted to the bar in 1840. The same year, he married a daughter of William Neil, of Columbus. The Whigs of the Franklin and Delaware District sent him to the State Senate, in 1848. He was President of the Exchange Bank in Cincinnati, in 1852, and was also President of Columbus & Xenia Railway. He was elected the twenty-second Governor of Ohio in 1859. By his promptness and activity at the beginning of the rebellion, Ohio was placed in the front rank of loyalty. At the beginning of Lincoln's second term, he was appointed Postmaster General, retiring upon the accession of Johnson. He then made his home at Columbus.

David Tod, twenty-third Governor of Ohio, was born at Youngstown, Ohio, in 1805. His education was principally obtained through his own exertions. He set about the study of law most vigorously, and was admitted to practice in 1827. He soon acquired popularity through his ability, and consequently was financially successful. He purchased the Briar Hill homestead. Under Jackson's administration, he was Postmaster at Warren, and held the position until 1838, when he was elected State Senator by the Whigs of Trumbull District, by the Democrats. In 1844, he retired to Briar Hill, and opened the Briar Hill Coal Mines. He was a pioneer in the coal business of Ohio. In the Cleveland

& Mahoning Railroad, he was largely interested, and was its President, after the death of Mr. Perkins. He was nominated, in 1844, for Governor, by the Democrats, but was defeated. In 1847, he went to Brazil as Minister, where he resided for four and a half years. The Emperor presented him with a special commendation to the President, as a testimonial of his esteem. He was also the recipient of an elegant silver tray, as a memorial from the resident citizens of Rio Janeiro. He was a delegate to the Democratic National Convention, which met at Charleston in 1860. He was Vice President of this Convention. He was an earnest advocate for Stephen A. Douglas. When the Southern members withdrew, the President, Caleb Cushing, going with them, the convention adjourned to Baltimore, when Mr. Tod assumed the chair and Douglas was nominated. He was an earnest worker in the cause, but not disheartened by its defeat. When Fort Sumter was fired upon, he was one of the most vigorous prosecutors of the war, not relaxing his active earnestness until its close. He donated full uniforms to Company B, of the Nineteenth Regiment, and contributed largely to the war fund of his township. Fifty-five thousand majority elected him Governor in 1861. His term was burdened with war duties, and he carried them so bravely as Governor that the President said of him: "Governor Tod of Ohio aids me more and troubles me less than any other Governor." His death occurred at Briar Hill during the year 1868.

John Brough was a native of Marietta, Ohio. He was born in 1811. The death of his father left him in precarious circumstances, which may have been a discipline for future usefulness. He entered a printing office, at the age of fourteen, in Marietta, and after serving a few months, began his studies in the Ohio University, setting type mornings and evenings, to earn sufficient for support. He occupied the leading position in classes, and at the same time excelled as a type-setter. He was also admired for his athletic feats in field amusements. He completed his studies and began reading law, which pursuit was interrupted by an opportunity to edit a paper in Petersburg, Va. He returned to Marietta in 1831, and became editor and proprietor of a leading Democratic newspaper —the *Washington County Republican.* He achieved distinction rapidly, and in 1833, sold his interest, for the purpose of entering a more extended field of journalism. He purchased the *Ohio Eagle*, at Lancaster, and as its editor, held a deep influence over local and State politics. He occupied the position of Clerk of the Ohio Senate, between the years 1835 and 1838, and relinquished his paper. He then represented the counties of Fairfield and Hocking in the Legislature. He was then appointed Auditor of State by the General Assembly, in which position he served six years. He then purchased the *Phœnix* newspaper in Cincinnati, changed its name to the *Enquirer*, placing it in the care of his brother, Charles, while he opened a law office in the city. His editorials in the *Enquirer*, and his activity in political affairs, were brilliant and strong. He retired from politics in 1848, sold a half-interest in the *Enquirer* and carried on a prosperous business, but was brought forward again by leaders of both

political parties in 1863, through the Vallandigham contest, and was elected Governor the same year, by a majority of 101,099 votes in a total of 471,643. He was three times married. His death occurred in 1865—Charles Anderson serving out his term.

Jacob Dolson Cox, the twenty-sixth Governor, was born in 1828, in Montreal, Canada, where his parents were temporarily. He became a student of Oberlin College, Ohio, in 1846, graduating in 1851, and beginning the practice of law in Warren in 1852. He was a member of the State Senate in 1859, from the Trumbull and Mahoning Districts. He was termed a radical. He was a commissioned Brigadier General of Ohio in 1861, and, in 1862, was promoted to Major General for gallantry in battle. While in the service he was nominated for Governor, and took that position in 1865. He was a member of Grant's Cabinet as Secretary of the Interior, but resigned. He went to Congress in 1875, from the Toledo District.

Rutherford B. Hayes, the nineteenth President of the United States, and the twenty-seventh Governor of Ohio, was born at Delaware, Ohio, in 1822. He was a graduate of Kenyon College in 1842. He began the study of law, and, in 1843, pursued that course in the Cambridge University, graduating in 1845. He began his practice at Fremont. He was married to Miss Lucy Webb in 1852, in Cincinnati. He was Major of the Twenty-third Ohio Volunteer Infantry in 1861, and in 1862, was promoted to Colonel on account of bravery in the field, and eventually became Major General. In 1864, he was elected to Congress, and retired from the service. He remained in Congress two terms, and was Governor of Ohio in 1867, being re-elected in 1869. He was again elected in 1875, but resigned in 1877, to accept the office of President of the United States, Thomas L. Young acting as Governor the remander of the term.

Edward F. Noyes was born in Haverhill, Mass., in 1832. While a lad of fourteen, he entered the office of the *Morning Star*, published at Dover, N. H., in order to learn the business of printing. At the age of eighteen, he entered the academy at Kingston, N. H. He prepared for college, and entered Dartmouth in 1853, graduating with high honors in 1857. He had begun the study of law, and continued the course in the Cincinnati Law School, and began to practice in 1858. He was an enthusiast at the opening of the rebellion and was interested in raising the Twentieth Regiment, of which he was made Major. He was promoted to Colonel in 1862. At the conflict at Ruff's Mills, in Georgia, in 1864, he was so unfortunate as to lose a leg. At the time, amputation was necessary, but was unskillfully performed. He was brought to Cincinnati, and the operation was repeated, which nearly cost him his life. He reported three months later, to Gen. Hooker for duty, on crutches. He was assigned to command of Camp Dennison. He was promoted to the full rank of Brigadier General, and while in discharge of his duty at that place, he was elected City Solicitor of Cincinnati. He occupied the position until 1871, when he was elected Governor, by a majority of 20,000.

William Allen, the twenty-ninth Governor of Ohio, was born in 1807, in Chowan County, N. C. While an infant, he was left an orphan, and his sister superintended his education. He was placed in a private school at Lynchburg, Va., at the age of fourteen. Two years later he joined his family at Chillicothe, and attended the academy a year, when he entered the law office of Edward King.. Before he was twenty-five he was sent to Congress by a strong Whig district. He was elected United States Senator in 1837 and served until 1849. In 1845 he married Effie McArthur, who died soon after the birth of their daughter. In 1873 he was elected Governor. His administration gave general satisfaction. He died at his home at "Fruit Hill," in 1879.

Richard M. Bishop, the thirty-first Governor of Ohio, was born November 4, 1812, in Fleming County, Ky. For several years he devoted himself to mercantile business in his native State. In 1848 he engaged in the wholesale grocery business at Cincinnati, and subsequently admitted his three sons partners, under the firm name of R. M. Bishop & Sons. He was a member of the Council of Cincinnati, and in 1859 was its Mayor, holding that office until 1861. In 1877 he was nominated by the Democrats and elected Governor of Ohio.

Charles Foster, the thirty-second Governor of Ohio, was born in Seneca County, Ohio, April 12, 1828. He was educated at the common schools and the academy at Norwalk, Ohio. Engaged in mercantile and banking business at Fostoria, and never held any public office until he was elected to the Forty-second Congress; was re-elected to the Forty-third Congress, and again to the Forty-fourth Congress as a Republican. In 1879 he was nominated by the Republicans and elected Governor of the State, was re-elected in 1881, and served through both terms winning the esteem of all political parties.

George Hoadly, the thirty-third Governor of Ohio, was born at New Haven, Conn., July 31, 1826. His parents, George and Mary Ann (Woolsey) Hoadly, names well known in the educational circles of Connecticut, were intimately connected with the commercial and social progress of that State. Gov. Hoadly completed his education at what is now known as Adelbert College, of which he is a LL. D., while in 1884 he received the same honor from Yale. In 1844 he entered the law school of Cambridge, Mass.; in 1846 entered the office of Chase & Ball, Cincinnati, Ohio; was admitted to the bar in August following; elected Judge of the Cincinnati Superior Court in 1851, succeeded Judge Gholson on the bench of the present Superior Court in 1859, and was re-elected in 1864; refused a seat on the Supreme bench in 1856 and again in 1862; was elected a member of the Constitutional Convention 1873–74. He was nominated by the Democrats for Governor in 1883 and elected.

ANCIENT WORKS.

Ohio has furnished a prolific field for antiquarians and those interested in scientific explorations, either for their own amusement and knowledge, or for the records of "facts and formations."

It is well known that the "Mound Builders" had a wide sweep through this continent, but absolute facts regarding their era have been most difficult to obtain. Numerous theories and suppositions have been advanced, yet they are emphatic evidences that they have traced the origin and time of this primeval race.

However, they have left their works behind them, and no exercise of faith is necessary to have confidence in that part of the story. That these works are of human origin is self-evident. Temples and military works have been found which required a considerable degree of scientific skill on the part of those early architects and builders.

Evidently the Indians had no knowledge of these works of predecessors, which differed in all respects from those of the red men. An ancient cemetery has been found, covering an area of four acres, which had evidently been laid out into lots, from north to south. Nearly 3,000 graves have been discovered, containing bones which at some time must have constituted the framework of veritable giants, while others are of no unusual size. In 1815, a jaw-bone was exhumed, containing an artificial tooth of silver.

Mounds and fortifications are plentiful in Athens County, some of them being of solid stone. One, differing in the quality of stone from the others, is supposed to be a dam across the Hocking. Over a thousand pieces of stone were used in its construction. Copper rings, bracelets and ornaments are numerous. It is also evident that these people possessed the knowledge of hardening copper and giving it an edge equal to our steel of to-day.

In the branch formed by a branch of the Licking River and Raccoon Creek, in Licking County, ancient works extend over an area of several miles. Again, three miles northwest of this locality, near the road between Newark and Granville, another field of these relics may be found. On the summit of a high hill is a fortification, formed to represent an alligator. The head and neck includes 32 feet; the length of the body is 73 feet; the tail was 105 feet; from the termini of the fore feet, over the shoulders, the width is 100 feet; from the termini of the hind feet, over the hips, is 92 feet; its highest point is 7 feet. It is composed of clay, which must have been conveyed hither, as it is not similar to the clay found in the vicinity.

Near Miamisburg, Montgomery County, are other specimens. Near the village is a mound, equaled in size by very few of these antiquities. It measures 800 feet around the base, and rises to a height of sixty-seven feet. Others are found in Miami County, while at Circleville, Pickaway County, no traces remain.

Two forts have been discovered, one forming an exact square, and the other describing a circle. The square is flanked by two walls, on all sides, these being divided by a deep ditch. The circle has one wall and no ditch. This is sixty-nine rods in diameter, its walls being twenty feet high. The square fort measures fifty-five rods across, with walls twelve feet high. Twelve gateways lead into the square fort, while the circle has but one, which led to the other, at

the point where the walls of the two came together. Before each of these entrances were mounds of earth, from four to five feet high and nearly forty feet in diameter. Evidently these were designed for defenses for the openings, in cases of emergency.

A short distance from Piketon, the turnpike runs, for several hundred feet, between two parallel artificial walls of earth, fifteen feet high, and six rods apart. In Scioto County, on both sides of the Ohio, are extensive ancient works.

"Fort Ancient" is near Lebanon in Warren County. Its direct measurement is a mile, but in tracing its angles, retreating and salient, its length would be nearly six miles. Its site is a level plain, 240 feet above the level of the river. The interior wall ,varies in height to conform with the nature of the ground without—ranging from 8 to 10 feet. On the plain it reaches 100 feet. This fort has 58 gateways, through one of which the State road runs, passing between two mounds 12 feet high. Northeast from these mounds, situated on the plain, are two roads, about a rod wide each, made upon an elevation about three feet high. They run parallel to each other about a quarter of a mile, when they each form a semicircle around a mound, joining in the circle. It is probable this was at some time a military defense, or, on the contrary, it may have been a general rendezvous for games and high holiday festivities.

Near Marietta, are the celebrated Muskingum River works, being a half-mile from its juncture with the Ohio. They consist of mounds and walls of earth in circular and square forms, also tracing direct lines.

The largest square fort covers an area of 40 acres, and is inclosed by a wall of earth, 6 to 10 feet in height, and from 25 to 30 feet at its base. On each side are three gateways. The center gateways exceed the others in size, more especially on the side toward the Muskingum. From this outlet runs a covered means of egress, between two parallel walls of earth, 231 feet distant from each other, measuring from the centers. The walls in the interior are 21 feet high at the most elevated points, measuring 42 feet at the base, grading on the exterior to about five feet in heigth. This passage-way is 360 feet in length, leading to the low grounds, which, at the period of its construction, probably reached the river.

At the northwest corner, within the inclosure, is a plateau 188 feet long, 132 feet broad and 9 feet high. Its sides are perpendicular and its surface level. At the center of each side is a graded pathway leading to the top, six feet wide. Another elevated square is near the south wall, 150x120 feet square, and 8 feet high, similar to the other, with the exception of the graded walk. Outside and next the wall to ascend to the top, it has central hollow ways, 10 feet wide, leading 20 feet toward the center, then arising with a gradual slope to the top. A third elevated square is situated at the southeast corner, 108x54 feet square, with ascents at the ends. This is neither as high or as perfect as the others.

Another ancient work is found to the southeast, covering an area of 20 acres with a gateway in the center of each side, and others at the corners—each of these having the mound defense.

On the outside of the smaller fort, a mound resembling a sugar loaf was formed in the shape of a circle 115 feet in diameter, its height being 30 feet. A ditch surrounds it, 15 feet wide and 4 feet deep. These earthworks have contributed greatly to the satisfactory results of scientific researches. Their builders were evidently composed of large bands that have succumbed to the advance of enlightened humanity. The relics found consists of ornaments, utensils and implements of war. The bones left in the numerous graves convey an idea of a stalwart, vigorous people, and the conquests which swept them away from the face of the country must have been fierce and cruel.

Other mounds and fortifications are found in different parts of the State, of which our limited space will not permit a description.

Many sculptured rocks are found, and others with plainly discernible tracery in emblematical designs upon their surface. The rock on which the inscriptions occur is the grindstone grit of the Ohio exports—a stratum found in Northern Ohio. Arrow-points of flint or chert have been frequently found. From all investigations, it is evident that an extensive flint bed existed in Licking County, near Newark. The old pits can now be recognized. They extended over a hundred acres. They are partially filled with water, and surrounded by piles of broken and rejected fragments. The flint is a grayish-white, with cavities of a brilliant quartz crystal. Evidently these stones were chipped into shape and the material sorted on the ground. Only clear, homogenous pieces can be wrought into arrow-heads and spear-points. Flint chips extend over many acres of ground in this vicinity. Flint beds are also found in Stark and Tuscarawas Counties. In color it varies, being red, white, black and mottled. The black is found in Coshocton County.

SOME GENERAL CHARACTERISTICS.

Ohio, as a State, is renowned as an agricultural section. Its variety, quality and quantity of productions cannot be surpassed by any State in the Union. Its commercial importance ranks proudly in the galaxy of opulent and industrious States composing this Union. Her natural resources are prolific, and all improvements which could be instituted by the ingenuity of mankind have been added.

From a quarter to a third of its area is hilly and broken. About the headwaters of the Muskingum and Scioto, and between the Scioto and the two Miami Rivers, are wide prairies; some of them are elevated and dry, with fertile soil, although they are frequently termed "barrens." In other parts, they are low and marshy, producing coarse, rank grass, which grows to a height of five feet in some places.

The State is most fortunate in timber wealth, having large quantities of black walnut, oak of different varieties, maple, hickory, birch, several kinds of

beech, poplar, sycamore, papaw, several kinds of ash, cherry, whitewood and buckeye.

The summers are usually warm, and the winters are mild, considering the latitude of the State. Near Lake Erie, the winters are severe, corresponding with sections in a line with that locality. Snow falls in sufficient quantities in the northern part to afford several weeks of fine sleighing. In the southern portion, the snowstorms are not frequent, and the fall rarely remains long on the ground.

The climate is generally healthy, with the exception of small tracts lying near the marshes and stagnant waters.

The Ohio River washes the southern border of the State, and is navigable for steamboats of a large size, the entire length of its course. From Pittsburgh to its mouth, measuring it meanderings, it is 908 miles long. Its current is gentle, having no falls except at Louisville, Ky., where the descent is twenty-two and a half feet in two miles. A canal obviates this obstruction.

The Muskingum is the largest river that flows entirely within the State. It is formed by the junction of the Tuscarawas and Walhonding Rivers, and enters the Ohio at Marietta One hundred miles of its length is navigable.

The Scioto is the second river in magnitude, is about 200 miles long, and flows into the Ohio at Portsmouth. It affords navigation 130 miles of its length. The Great Miami is a rapid river, in the western part of the State, and is 100 miles long. The Little Miami is seventy miles in length, and enters the Ohio seven miles from Cincinnati.

The Maumee rises in Indiana, flows through the northwestern part of the State, and enters Lake Erie at Maumee Bay. It affords navigation as far as Perrysburg, eighteen miles from the lake, and above the rapids, it is again navigable.

The Sandusky rises in the northern part of the State, is eighty miles long, and flows into Lake Erie, via Sandusky Bay.

Lake Erie washes 150 miles of the northern boundary. The State has several fine harbors, the Maumee and Sandusky Bays being the largest.

We have, in tracing the record of the earlier counties, given the educational interests as exemplified by different institutions. We have also given the canal system of the State, in previous pages. The Governor is elected every two years, by the people. The Senators are chosen biennially, and are apportioned according to the male population over twenty-one years of age. The Judges of the Supreme and other courts are elected by the joint ballot of the Legislature, for the term of seven years.

During the early settlement of Ohio, perfect social equality existed among the settlers. The line of demarkation that was drawn was a separation of the good from the bad. Log-rollings and cabin-raisings were mutual affairs. Their sport usually consisted of shooting, rowing and hunting. Hunting shirts and buckskin pants were in the fashion, while the women dressed in coarse material,

woven by their own hands. A common American cotton check was considered a magnificent addition to one's toilet. In those times, however, the material was $1 per yard, instead of the shilling of to-day. But five yards was then a large "pattern," instead of the twenty-five of 1880. In cooking utensils, the pot, pan and frying-pan constituted an elegant outfit. A few plain dishes were added for table use. Stools and benches were the rule, although a few wealthy families indulged in splint-bottom chairs. The cabin floors were rough, and in many cases the green sward formed the carpet. Goods were very expensive, and flour was considered a great luxury. Goods were brought by horses and mules from Detroit, or by wagon from Philadelphia to Pittsburgh, and then down the Ohio. Coarse calicoes were $1 per yard; tea $2 to $3 per pound; coffee 75 cents; whisky, from $1 to $2 per gallon, and salt, $5 to $6 per barrel. In those towns where Indian trade constituted a desirable interest, a bottle was set at each end of the counter—a gratuitous offering to their red friends.

OUTLINE GEOLOGY OF OHIO.

Should we group the rocks of Ohio, according to their lithological characters, we should give five distinct divisions. They are marked by difference in appearance, hardness, color and composition:

1—Limestone.

2—Black shale.

3—Fine-grained sandstone.

4—Conglomerate.

5—Coal series.

They are all stratified and sedimentary. They are nearly horizontal. The lowest one visible, in a physical as well as a geological sense, is "blue limestone."

The bed of the Ohio River near Cincinnati is 133 feet below the level of Lake Erie. The strata incline in all directions from the southwestern angle of the State. In Scioto County may be seen the outcropping edges of all these rocks. They sink at this point in the direction south $80\frac{1}{2}^\circ$ east; easterly at the rate of $37\frac{4}{10}$ feet per mile. The cliff limestone, the upper stratum of the limestone deposit, is 600 feet above the river at Cincinnati; at West Union, in Adams County, it is only 350 feet above the same level.

The finely grained sandstone found on the summit of the hills east of Brush Creek and west of the Scioto sinks to the base of the hills, and appears beneath the conglomerate, near the Little Scioto. Although the rock formations are the same in all parts of the State, in the same order, their thickness, mass and dip, are quite different.

Chillicothe, Reynoldsburg, Mansfield, Newburg, Waverly and Rockville, are situated near the western border of the "fine-grained limestone." Its outcrop forms a continuous and crooked line from the Ohio River to Lake Erie. In the southwest portion of the State is the "blue limestone," occupying a circular

space from West Union via Dayton, to the State line. The conglomerate is to the east of the given towns, bending around from Cuyahoga Falls to Burton, in Geauga County, and then eastward into Pennsylvania. Near this outcrop are the coal-bearing rocks which occupy the east and southeastern portions of Ohio. From Rockville to Chillicothe, the course is north, about 10° east, and nearly corresponds with the line of outcrop of the fine-grained sandstone for an equal distance. The dip at Rockville, given by Charles Whittlesey, is $80\frac{1}{2}°$, almost at a right angle, and at the rate of 37 feet per mile.

At Chillicothe, the other end of the line, the general dip is south 70° east, 30 feet to the mile, the line curving eastward and the dip line to the southward. This is the universal law.

The northern boundary of the great coal fields passes through Meadville, in Pennsylvania, and turning south arrives at Portage Summit, on the summit of the Alleghanies, 2,500 feet above the ocean level. It then plunges rapidly to the westward. From the Alleghanies to the southwest, through Pennsylvania, Virginia and Tennessee, sweeps this great coal basin.

Much of the county of Medina is conglomerate upon the surface, but the streams, especially the South Branch of the Rocky River, set through this surface stratum, and reach the fine-grained sandstone. This is the case with Rocky, Chagrin, Cuyahoga and Grand Rivers—also Conneaut and Ashtabula Creeks. This sandstone and the shale extend up the narrow valleys of these streams and their tributaries. Between these strata is a mass of coarse-grained sandstone, without pebbles, which furnishes the grindstones for which Ohio is noted. In Lorain County, the coarse sandstone grit nearly displaces the fine-grained sandstone and red shale, thickening at Elyria to the black shale. South of this point, the grindstone grit, red shale and ash-colored shale vary in thickness. The town of Chillicothe, the village of Newburg, and a point in the west line of Crawford County, are all situated on the "black shale."

Dr. Locke gives the dip, at Montgomery and Miami Counties, at north 14°, east, six feet to the mile; at Columbus, Whitelesey gives it, 81° 52′ east, $22\frac{73}{100}$ feet to the mile. The fine-grained sandstone at Newburg is not over eighty feet in thickness; at Jacktown and Reynoldsburg, 500; at Waverly 250 to 300 feet, and at Brush Creek, Adams County, 343 feet. The black shale is 251 feet thick at Brush Creek; at Alum Creek, 250 to 300 feet thick; in Crawford County, about 250 feet thick. The conglomerate in Jackson County is 200 feet thick; at Cuyahoga Falls, 100 to 120 feet; at Burton, Geauga County, 300 feet. The great limestone formation is divided into several numbers. At Cincinnati, at the bed of the river, there is:

1—A blue limestone and slaty marlite.

2—Dun-colored marl and layers of lime rock.

3—Blue marl and layers of blue limestone.

4—Marl and bands of limestone, with immense numbers of shells at the surface.

In Adams County, the detailed section is thus:

1—Blue limestone and marl.

2—Blue marl.

3—Flinty limestone.

4—Blue marl.

5—Cliff limestone.

The coal-fields of Ohio are composed of alternate beds of coarse-grained sandstone, clay shales, layers of ironstone, thin beds of limestone and numerous strata of coal. The coal region abounds in iron. From Jacktown to Concord, in Muskingum County, there are eight beds of coal, and seven strata of limestone. The distance between these two points is forty-two miles. From Freedom, in Portage County, to Poland, in Trumbull County, a distance of thirty-five miles, there are five distinct strata. Among them are distributed thin beds of limestone, and many beds of iron ore. The greater mass of coal and iron measures is composed of sandstone and shale. The beds of sandstone are from ten to twenty or eighty feet thick. Of shale, five to fifty feet thick. The strata of coal and iron are comparatively thin. A stratum of coal three feet thick can be worked to advantage. One four feet thick is called a good mine, few of them averaging five. Coal strata are found from six to ten and eleven feet. There are four beds of coal, and three of limestone, in Lawrence and Scioto Counties. There are also eight beds of ore, and new ones are constantly being discovered. The ore is from four to twelve inches thick, occasionally being two feet. The calcareous ore rests upon the second bed of limestone, from the bottom, and is very rich.

The most prominent fossils are trees, plants and stems of the coal-bearing rocks, shells and corals and crustaceæ of the limestone, and the timber, leaves and dirt-beds of the "drift"—the earthy covering of the rocks, which varies from nothing to 200 feet. Bowlders, or "lost rocks," are strewn over the State. They are evidently transported from some remote section, being fragments of primitive rock, granite, gneiss and hornblende rock, which do not exist in Ohio, nor within 400 miles of the State, in any direction. In the Lake Superior region we find similar specimens.

The superficial deposits of Ohio are arranged into four geological formations:

1—The ancient drift, resting upon the rocks of the State.

2—The Lake Erie marl and sand deposits.

3—The drift occupying the valleys of large streams, such as the Great Miami, the Ohio and Scioto.

4—The bowlders.

The ancient drift of Ohio is meager in shell deposits. It is not, therefore, decided whether it be of salt-water origin or fresh water.

It has, at the bottom, blue clay, with gravel-stones of primitive or sedimentary rocks, containing carbonate of lime. The yellow clay is found second. Above that, sand and gravel, less stratified, containing more pebbles of the

sedimentary rocks, such as limestone and stone, iron ore, coal and shale. The lower layer contains logs, trees, leaves, sticks and vines.

The Lake Erie section, or "Lake Erie deposits," may be classed in the following order:

1—From the lake level upward, fine, blue, marly sand—forty-five to sixty feet.

2—Coarse, gray, water-washed sand—ten to twenty feet.

3—Coarse sand and gravel, not well stratified, to surface—twenty to fifty feet.

Stratum first dissolves in water. It contains carbonate of lime, magnesia, iron, alumina, silex, sulphur, and some decomposed leaves, plants and sticks. Some pebbles are found. In contact with the water, quicksand is formed.

The Hickory Plains, at the forks of the Great Miami and White Water, and also between Kilgore's Mill and New Richmond, are the results of heavy diluvial currents.

In presenting these formations of the State, we have quoted from the experience and conclusions of Charles Whittlesey, eminent as a geologist, and who was a member of the Ohio Geological Corps.

OHIO'S RANK DURING THE WAR.

The patriotism of this State has been stanch, unswerving and bold, ever since a first settlement laid its corner-stone in the great Western wilderness. Its decisive measures, its earnest action, its noble constancy, have earned the laurels that designate it "a watchword for the nation." In the year 1860, Ohio had a population of 2,343,739. Its contribution of soldiers to the great conflict that was soon to surge over the land in scarlet terror, was apportioned 310,000 men. In less than twenty-four hours after the President's proclamation and call for troops, the Senate had matured and carried a bill through, appropriating $1,000,000 for the purpose of placing the State on a war footing. The influences of party sentiments were forgotten, and united, the State unfurled the flag of patriotism. Before the bombardment of old Fort Sumter has fairly ceased its echoes, twenty companies were offered the Governor for immediate service. When the surrender was verified, the excitement was tumultuous. Militia officers telegraphed their willingness to receive prompt orders, all over the State. The President of Kenyon College—President Andrews—tendered his services by enlisting in the ranks. Indeed, three months before the outbreak of the war, he had expressed his readiness to the Governor to engage in service should there be occasion. He was the first citizen to make this offer.

The Cleveland Grays, the Rover Guards, the State Fencibles, the Dayton Light Guards, the Governor's Guards, the Columbus Videttes and the Guthrie Grays—the best drilled and celebrated militia in the State—telegraphed to Columbus for orders. Chillicothe, Portsmouth and Circleville offered money and troops. Canton, Xenia, Lebanon, Lancaster, Springfield, Cincinnati,

Dayton, Cleveland, Toledo and other towns urged their assistance upon the State. Columbus began to look like a great army field. The troops were stationed wherever they could find quarters, and food in sufficient quantities was hard to procure. The Governor soon established a camp at Miamiville, convenient to Cincinnati. He intended to appoint Irvin McDowell, of the staff of Lieut. Gen. Scott, to the leading command, but the friends of Capt. McClellan became enthusiastic and appealed to the Governor, who decided to investigate his case. Being satisfied, he desired Capt. McClellan to come up to Columbus. But that officer was busy and sent Capt. Pope, of the regular army, in his stead. This gentleman did not suit Gov. Dennison. The friends of McClellan again set forth the high qualities of this officer, and Gov. Dennison sent an earnest request for an interview, which was granted, and resulted in the appointment of the officer as Major General of the Ohio militia. Directly thereafter, he received an invitation to take command of the Pennsylvania troops, but Ohio could not spare so valuable a leader.

For three-years troops were soon called out, and their Generals were to be appointed by the President. Gov. Dennison advised at once with the War Department at Washington, and McClellan received his appointment as Major General in the regular army.

Cincinnati and Louisville became alarmed lest Kentucky should espouse the Confederate cause, and those cities thus be left insecure against the inroads of a cruel foe. Four hundred and thirty-six miles of Ohio bordered Slave States. Kentucky and West Virginia were to be kept in check, but the Governor proclaimed that not only should the border of Ohio be protected, but even beyond that would the State press the enemy. Marietta was garrisoned, and other river points rendered impregnable. On the 20th of May, 1861, official dispatches affirmed that troops were approaching Wheeling under the proclamation of Letcher. Their intention was to route the convention at Wheeling.

Military orders were instantly given. Col. Steedman and his troops crossed at Marietta and crushed the disturbance at Parkersburg—swept into the country along the railroad, built bridges, etc. Col. Irvine crossed at Wheeling and united with a regiment of loyal Virginians. At the juncture of the two tracks at Grafton, the columns met, but the rebels had retreated in mad haste. The loyal troops followed, and, at Philippi, fought the first little skirmish of the war. The great railway lines were secured, and the Wheeling convention protected, and West Virginia partially secured for the Union.

After preliminary arrangements, McClellan's forces moved in two columns upon the enemy at Laurel Hill. One remained in front, under Gen. Morris, while the other, under his own command, pushed around to Huttonsville, in their rear. Gen. Morris carried his orders through promptly, but McClellan was late. Rosecrans was left with McClellan's advance to fight the battle of Rich Mountain, unaided. Garnett being alarmed at the defeat of his outpost, retreated. McClellan was not in time to intercept him, but Morris continued

the chase. Steedman overtook the rear-guard of Garnett's army at Carrick's Ford, where a sharp skirmish ensued, Garnett himself falling. The scattered portions of the rebel army escaped, and West Virginia was again free from armed rebels—and was the gift of Ohio through her State militia to the nation at the beginning of the war.

At this period, Gen. McClellan was called to Washington. Gen. Rosecrans succeeded him, and the three-years troops left in the field after the disbanding of the three-months men, barely sufficed to hold the country. He telegraphed Gov. Dennison to supply him immediately with re-enforcements, the request being made on the 8th of August. Already had the Confederate leaders realized the loss they had sustained in Western Virginia, and had dispatched their most valued General, Robert E. Lee, to regain the territory. Rosecrans again wrote: "If you, Governor of Indiana and Governor of Michigan, will lend your efforts to get me quickly 50,000 men, in addition to my present force, I think a blow can be struck which will save fighting the rifled-cannon batteries at Manassas. Lee is certainly at Cheat Mountain. Send all troops you can to Grafton." Five days thereafter, all the available troops in the West were dispatched to Fremont, Mo., and the plans of Rosecrans were foiled.

Heavy re-enforcements had been sent to the column in Kanawha Valley under Gen. Cox. He became alarmed, and telegraphed to Gov. Dennison. Rosecrans again appealed to Gov. Dennison, that he might be aided in marching across the country against Floyd and Wise to Cox's relief, "I want to catch Floyd while Cox holds him in front."

The response was immediate and effective. He was enabled to employ twenty-three Ohio regiments in clearing his department from rebels, securing the country and guarding the exposed railroads. With this achievement, the direct relation of the State administrations with the conduct and methods of campaigns terminated. The General Government had settled down to a system. Ohio was busy organizing and equipping regiments, caring for the sick and wounded, and sustaining her home strength.

Gov. Dennison's staff officers were tendered better positions in the national service. Camps Dennison and Chase, one at Cincinnati and the other at Columbus, were controlled by the United States authorities. A laboratory was established at Columbus for the supply of ammunition. During the fall and early winter, the Ohio troops suffered in Western Virginia. The people of their native State responded with blankets, clothing and other supplies.

In January, 1862, David A. Tod entered upon the duties of Governor. The first feature of his administration was to care for the wounded at home, sent from Pittsburg Landing. A regular system was inaugurated to supply stores and clothing to the suffering at home and in the field. Agencies were established, and the great and good work was found to be most efficacious in alleviating the wretchedness consequent upon fearful battles. A. B. Lyman

had charge of affairs in Cincinnati, and Royal Taylor held the same position in Louisville. J. C. Wetmore was stationed at Washington, F. W. Bingham at Memphis, Weston Flint at Cairo and St. Louis. Thus the care which Ohio extended over her troops at home and in the battle-field, furnished a practical example to other States, and was the foundation of that commendable system all over the Union. Stonewall Jackson's sudden advent in the valley created the greatest consternation lest the safety of the capital be jeopardized, and the War Department called for more troops. Gov. Tod immediately issued a proclamation, and the people, never shrinking, responded heartily. At Cleveland a large meeting was held, and 250 men enlisted, including 27 out of 32 students attending the law school. Fire bells rang out the alarm at Zanesville, a meeting was convened at 10 in the morning, and by 3 in the afternoon, 300 men had enlisted. Court was adjourned *sine die*, and the Judge announced that he and the lawyers were about to enter into military ranks. Only three unmarried men between the ages of eighteen and twenty-three were left in the town of Putnam. Five thousand volunteers reported at Camp Chase within two days after the proclamation.

Again in June, the President called for troops, followed by yet another call. Under these calls, Ohio was to raise 74,000 men. The draft system was advised to hasten and facilitate filling regiments. It has always been a repulsive measure. To save sections from this proceeding, enormous sums were offered to induce men to volunteer, and thus fill the quota.

Counties, townships, towns and individuals, all made bids and urged the rapid enlistment of troops. The result was, that the regiments were filled rapidly, but not in sufficient numbers to prevent the draft. Twenty thousand four hundred and twenty-seven men were yet lacking, and the draft was ordered, September 15. At the close of the year, Ohio was ahead of her calls. Late in the fall, the prospect was disheartening. The peninsula campaign had failed. The Army of Northern Virginia had been hurled back nearly to Washington. The rebels had invaded Maryland; Cincinnati and Louisville were threatened, and the President had declared his intention to abolish slavery, as a war measure. During the first part of 1862, artillery, stores and supplies were carried away mysteriously, from the Ohio border; then little squads ventured over the river to plunder more openly, or to burn a bridge or two. The rebel bands came swooping down upon isolated supply trains, sending insolent roundabout messages regarding their next day's intentions. Then came invasions of our lines near Nashville, capture of squads of guards within sight of camp, the seizure of Gallatin. After Mitchell had entered Northern Alabama, all manner of depredations were committed before his very eyes. These were attributed to John Morgan's Kentucky cavalry. He and his men, by the middle of 1862, were as active and dangerous as Lee or Beauregard and their troops. Morgan was a native of Alabama, but had lived in Kentucky since boyhood. His father was large slave-owner, who lived in the center of the "Blue Grass Country." His

life had been one of wild dissipation, adventure and recklessness, although in his own family he had the name of being most considerate. The men who followed him were accustomed to a dare-devil life. They formed and independent band, and dashed madly into the conflict, wherever and whenever inclination prompted. Ohio had just raised troops to send East, to assist in the overthrow of Stonewell Jackson. She had overcome her discouragements over failures, for the prospects were brightening. Beauregard had evacuated Corinth; Memphis had fallen; Buell was moving toward Chattanooga; Mitchell's troops held Northern Tennessee and Northern Alabama; Kentucky was virtually in the keeping of the home guards and State military board. And now, here was Morgan, creating confusion in Kentucky by his furious raids! On the 11th of July, the little post of Tompkinsville fell. He issued a call for the Kentuckians to rise in a body. He marched toward Lexington, and the southern border of Ohio was again in danger. Cincinnati was greatly excited. Aid was sent to Lexington and home guards were ready for duty. Morgan was not prominent for a day or so, but he was not idle. By the 9th of July, he held possession of Tompkinsville and Glasgow; by the 11th, of Lebanon. On the 13th, he entered Harraldsburg; Monday morning he was within fifteen miles of Frankfort. He had marched nearly 400 miles in eight days. Going on, toward Lexington, he captured the telegraph operator at Midway, and his messages also! He was now aware of the plans of the Union armies at Lexington, Louisville, Cincinnati and Frankfort. In the name of the operator, he sent word that Morgan was driving in the pickets at Frankfort! Now that he had thrown his foes off guard, he rested his men a couple of days. He decided to let Lexington alone, and swept down on Cynthiana, routing a few hundred loyal Kentucky cavalrymen, capturing the gun and 420 prisoners, and nearly 300 horses. Then he was off to Paris; he marched through Winchester, Richmond, Crab Orchard and Somerset, and again crossed the Cumberland River. He started with 900 men and returned with 1,200, having captured and paroled nearly as many, besides destroying all the Government arms and stores in seventeen towns. The excitement continued in Cincinnati. Two regiments were hastily formed, for emergencies, known as Cincinnati Reserves. Morgan's raid did not reach the city, but it demonstrated to the rebel forces what might be accomplished in the "Blue Grass" region. July and August were passed in gloom. Bragg and Buell were both watchful, and Chattanooga had not been taken. Lexington was again menaced, a battle fought, and was finally deserted because it could not be held.

Louisville was now in danger. The banks sent their specie away. Railroad companies added new guards.

September 1, Gen. Kirby Smith entered Lexington, and dispatched Heath with about six thousand men against Cincinnati and Covington. John Morgan joined him. The rebels rushed upon the borders of Ohio. The failure at Richmond only added deeper apprehension. Soon Kirby Smith and his regiments

occupied a position where only a few unmanned siege guns and the Ohio prevented his entrance through Covington into the Queen City. The city was fully armed, and Lew. Wallace's arrival to take command inspired all with fresh courage. And before the people were hardly aware that danger was so near, the city was proclaimed under strict martial law. "Citizens for labor, soldiers for battle."

There was no panic, because the leaders were confident. Back of Newport and Covington breastworks, riflepits and redoubts had been hastily thrown up, and pickets were thrown out. From Cincinnati to Covington extended a ponton bridge. Volunteers marched into the city and those already in service were sent to the rescue. Strict military law was now modified, and the city being secured, some inconsiderate ones expressed themselves as being outraged with "much ado about nothing." But Gen. Wallace did not cease his vigilance. And Smith's force began to move up. One or two skirmishes ensued. The city was again excited. September 11 was one of intense suspense. But Smith did not attack in force. He was ordered to join Bragg. On the Monday following, the citizens of Cincinnati returned to their avocations. In the spring of 1863, the State was a trifle discouraged. Her burdens had been heavy, and she was weary. Vicksburg was yet in the hands of the enemy. Rosecrans had not moved since his victory at Stone River. There had been fearful slaughter about Fredericksburg.

But during July, 1863, Ohio was aroused again by Bragg's command to Morgan, to raid Kentucky and capture Louisville. On the 3d of July, he was in a position to invade Ohio, Indiana and Kentucky. He continued his depredations, bewildering the militia with his movements. His avowed intention was to burn Indianapolis and "take Cincinnati alive." Morgan's purposes were never clear. It was his audacious and sudden dashes, here and there, which gave him success. Before Cincinnati was aware, he was at Harrison—13th of July. He expected to meet the forces of Burnside and Judah, and to cut his way through. His plans here, as everywhere, were indefinable, and he succeeded in deceiving everybody. While printers in Cincinnati were setting up "reports" as to his whereabouts, he was actually marching through the suburbs, near troops enough to devour them, and yet not encountered by a single picket! They fed their horses within sight of Camp Dennison. At 4 o'clock that day, they were within twenty-eight miles of Cincinnati—having marched more than ninety miles in thirty-five hours.

The greatest chagrin was expressed, that Morgan had so easily eluded the great military forces. A sudden dash was made to follow him. There was a universal bolting of doors, burying of valuables, hiding of horses, etc., all along the route of the mad cavalryman and his 2,000 mounted men. They plundered beyond all comparison. They made a principle of it. On the 14th of July, he was feeding his horses near Dennison; he reached the ford at Buffington Island on the evening of the 18th; he had encountered several little skirmishes,

but he had marched through at his own will, mostly; all the troops of Kentucky had been outwitted. The Indiana forces had been laughed to scorn. The 50,000 Ohio militia had been as straws in his way. The intrepid band would soon be upon friendly soil, leaving a blackened trail behind. But Judah was up and marching after him, Hobson followed and Col. Runkle was north of him. The local militia in his advance began to impede the way. Near Pomeroy, a stand was made. Morgan found militia posted everywhere, but he succeeded in running the gantlet, so far as to reach Chester. He should have hastened to cross the ford. Fortunately, he paused to breathe his horses and secure a guide. The hour and a half thus lost was the first mistake Morgan is known to have made in his military career. They reached Portland, and only a little earthwork, guarded by about 300 men, stood between him and safety. His men were exhausted, and he feared to lead them to a night attack upon a position not understood perfectly; he would not abandon his wagon train, nor his wounded; he would save or lose all. As Morgan was preparing next morning, having found the earthworks deserted through the night, Judah came up. He repulsed the attack at first, capturing Judah's Adjutant General, and ordering him to hold the force on his front in check. He was not able to join his own company, until it was in full retreat. Here Lieut. O'Neil, of the Fifth Indiana, made an impulsive charge, the lines were reformed, and up the Chester road were Hobson's gallant cavalrymen, who had been galloping over three States to capture this very Morgan! And now the tin-clad gunboats steamed up and opened fire. The route was complete, but Morgan escaped with 1,200 men! Seven hundred men were taken prisoners, among them Morgan's brother, Cols. Ward, Duke and Huffman. The prisoners were brought to Cincinnati, while the troops went after the fugitive. He was surrounded by dangers; his men were exhausted, hunted down; skirmishes and thrilling escapes marked a series of methods to escape—his wonderful sagacity absolutely brilliant to the very last—which was his capture, on the 26th, with 346 prisoners and 400 horses and arms. It may be added, that after several months of confinement, Morgan and six prisoners escaped, on the 27th of November. Again was he free to raid in the "Blue Grass" country.

John Brough succeeded Gov. Tod January 11, 1864. His first prominent work was with the Sanitary Commission. In February, of the same year, the President called for more troops. The quota of Ohio was 51,465 men. The call of March added 20,995. And in July was a third demand for 50,792. In December, the State was ordered to raise 26,027. The critical period of the war was evidently approaching. Gov. Brough instituted a reformation in the "promotion system" of the Ohio troops. He was, in many cases, severe in his measures. He ignored "local great men" and refused distinction as a bribe. The consequence was that he had many friends and some enemies. The acuteness of his policy was so strong, and his policy so just, that, after all his severe administration, he was second to no statesman in the nation during the struggle.

Ohio during the war was most active in her relief and aid societies. The most noted and extensive organization was the Cincinnati Branch of the United States Sanitary Commission. The most efficient organization was the Soldiers' Aid Society of Northern Ohio.

When the happy tidings swept over the land that peace was proclaimed, an echo of thanksgiving followed the proclamation. The brave sons of Ohio returned to their own soil—those who escaped the carnage. But 'mid the rejoicing there was deepest sadness, for a fragment only remained of that brave army which had set out sturdily inspired with patriotism.

A BRIEF MENTION OF PROMINENT OHIO GENERALS.

George Briton McClellan, the first General appointed in Ohio, was born December 3, 1826, in Philadelphia. His father was a physician of high standing and Scottish descent. Young George was in school in Philadelphia, and entered West Point at the age of sixteen. At the age of twenty, he was a brevet Second Lieutenant, tracing lines of investment before Vera Cruz, under the supervision of Capt. R. E. Lee, First Lieut. P. G. T. Beauregard, Second Lieut. G. W. Smith. At the close of the Mexican war, old Col. Totten reported in favor of them all to Winfield Scott. He had charge of an exploring expedition to the mountains of Oregon and Washington, beginning with the Cascade Range. This was one of a series of Pacific Railway explorations. Returning to Washington, he was detailed to visit the West Indies and secretly select a coaling station for the United States Navy. He was dispatched by Jefferson Davis, Secretary of War, to Europe, with instructions to take full reports of the organization of military forces connected with the Crimean war. This work elicited entire satisfaction. He returned in January, 1857, resigned as regular army officer, and was soon installed as engineer of Illinois Central Railroad. In 1860, he was President of the Ohio & Mississippi. He removed to Cincinnati, where he was at the opening of the war.

William Starke Rosecrans was born September 6, 1819, in Delaware County, Ohio. His people were from Amsterdam. He was educated at West Point. When the war opened, he espoused the cause of the Union with enthusiastic zeal, and was appointed by McClellan on his staff as Engineer. June 9, he was Chief Engineer of the State under special law. Soon thereafter, he was Colonel of the Twenty-third Ohio, and assigned to the command of Camp Chase, Columbus. On May 16, his commission was out as Brigadier General in the United States Army. This reached him and he was speedily summoned to active service, under Gen. McClellan. After the battle of Rich Mountain, he was promoted to the head of the department.

In April, 1862, he was succeeded by Fremont, and ordered to Washington to engage in immediate service for the Secretary of War. About the 15th of May, he was ordered to Gen. Halleck, before Corinth. He was relieved from his command December 9, 1864.

Ulysses S. Grant, whose history we cannot attempt to give in these pages, was born on the banks of the Ohio, at Point Pleasant, Clermont Co., Ohio, April 27, 1822. He entered West Point in 1839.

"That the son of a tanner, poor and unpretending, without influential friends until his performance had won them, ill-used to the world and its ways, should rise—not suddenly, in the first blind worship of helpless ignorance which made any one who understood regimental tactics illustrious in advance for what he was going to do, not at all for what he had done—but slowly, grade by grade, through all the vicissitudes of constant service and mingled blunders and success, till, at the end of four years' war he stood at the head of our armies, crowned by popular acclaim our greatest soldier, is a satisfactory answer to criticism and a sufficient vindication of greatness. Success succeeds."

"We may reason on the man's career; we may prove that at few stages has he shown personal evidence of marked ability; we may demonstrate his mistakes; we may swell the praises of his subordinates. But after all, the career stands wonderful, unique, worthy of study so long as the nation honors her benefactors, or the State cherishes the good fame of the sons who contributed most to her honor."

Lieut. Gen. William Tecumseh Sherman was another Ohio contribution to the great Union war. He was born at Lancaster February 8, 1820. He entered West Point in June, 1836. His "march to the sea" has fully brought out the details of his life, since they were rendered interesting to all, and we refrain from repeating the well-known story.

Philip H. Sheridan was born on the 6th of March, 1831, in Somerset, Perry Co., Ohio. He entered West Point in 1848. During the war, his career was brilliant. His presence meant victory. Troops fighting under his command were inspired. Gen. Rosecrans said of him, "He fights, he fights." A staff officer once said, "He is an emphatic human syllable."

Maj. Gen. James B. McPherson was born in Sandusky County, town of Clyde, November 14, 1828.

Maj. Gen. Q. A. Gillmore was born February 28, 1825, at Black River, Lorain Co., Ohio.

Maj. Gen. Irvin McDowell was born at Franklinton, Ohio, October 15, 1818.

Maj. Gen. Don Carlos Buell was born near Marietta on the 23d of March, 1818. His grandfather on the maternal side was one of the first settlers of Cincinnati.

Maj. Gen. O. M. Mitchell was a native of Kentucky, but a resident of Ohio from the age of four years.

Maj. Gen. Robert C. Schenck was born October 4, 1809, in Franklin, Warren Co., Ohio.

Maj. Gen. James A. Garfield, was born in Orange, Cuyahoga Co., Ohio, November 19, 1831.

Maj. Gen. Jacob D. Cox was born in Canada in 1828, and removed to Ohio in 1846.

Maj. Gen. James B. Steedman was born in Pennsylvania July 30, 1818, and removed to Toledo in 1861.

Maj. Gen. David S. Stanley was born in Wayne County, Ohio, June 1, 1828.

Maj. Gen. George Crook was born in Montgomery County, Ohio, September 8, 1828.

Maj. Gen. Mortimer D. Leggett was born in New York April 19, 1831, and emigrated to Ohio, in 1847.

Brevet Maj. Gen. John C. Tidball was born in Virginia, but removed while a mere lad to Ohio with his parents.

Brevet Maj. Gen. John W. Fuller was born in England in 1827. He removed to Toledo in 1858.

Brevet Maj. Gen. Manning F. Force was born in Washington, D. C., on the 17th of December, 1824. He became a citizen of Cincinnati.

Brevet Maj. Gen. Henry B. Banning was born in Knox County, Ohio, November 10, 1834.

We add the names of Brevet Maj. Gens. Erastus B. Tyler, Thomas H. Ewing, Charles R. Woods, August V. Kautz, Rutherford B. Hayes, Charles C. Walcutt, Kenner Garrard, Hugh Ewing, Samuel Beatty, James S. Robinson, Joseph W. Keifer, Eli Long, William B. Woods, John W. Sprague, Benjamin P. Runkle, August Willich, Charles Griffin, Henry J. Hunt, B. W. Brice.

Brig. Gens. Robert L. McCook, William H. Lytle, William Leroy Smith, C. P. Buckingham, Ferdinand Van Derveer, George P. Este, Joel A. Dewey, Benjamin F. Potts, Jacob Ammen, Daniel McCook, J. W. Forsyth, Ralph P. Buckland, William H. Powell, John G. Mitchell, Eliakim P. Scammon, Charles G Harker, J. W. Reilly, Joshua W. Sill, N. C. McLean, William T. H. Brooks, George W. Morgan, John Beatty, William W. Burns, John S. Mason, S. S. Carroll, Henry B. Carrington, M. S. Wade, John P. Slough, T. K. Smith.

Brevet Brig. Gens. C. B. Ludlow, Andrew Hickenlooper, B. D. Fearing, Henry F. Devol, Israel Garrard, Daniel McCoy, W. P. Richardson, G. F. Wiles, Thomas M. Vincent, J. S. Jones, Stephen B. Yeoman, F. W. Moore, Thomas F. Wilder, Isaac Sherwood, C. H. Grosvenor, Moses E. Walker, R. N. Adams, E. B. Eggleston, I. M. Kirby.

We find numerous other names of Brevet Brigadier Generals, mostly of late appointments, and not exercising commands in accordance with their brevet rank, which we omit quoting through lack of space. They are the names of men of rare abilities, and in many cases of brilliant achievements.

In looking over the "War Record of Ohio," we find the State a great leader in men of valor and heroic deeds. It was the prolific field of military geniuses.

Ohio was draped with the garb of mourning at the close of the war. Her human sacrifice in behalf of the nation had been bitter. There were tears and heart-aches all over the land. Her ranks were swept by a murderous fire, from which they never flinched, and many officers fell.

Col. John H. Patrick will be remembered as opening the battle of Lookout Mountain. He fell mortally wounded, during the Atlanta campaign, May 15, 1862, while actively engaged. He was struck by a canister shot, and expired half a hour thereafter.

Col. John T. Toland, in July, 1863, was placed in command of a mounted brigade, including his regiment, and was instructed to destroy the Virginia & Tennessee Railroad. He reached Wytheville, Va., on the afternoon of the 18th of July. The rebels were safely intrenched in the house, and poured a galling fire into the national troops. Col. Toland was on horseback, at the head of his command. A sharpshooter sent a bullet with fatal certainty, and he fell on the neck of his horse, but was instantly caught by his Orderly Sergeant, who heard the fervent words: "My horse and my sword to my mother."

Lieut. Col. Barton S. Kyle accompanied his regiment to the battle of Pittsburg Landing. The regiment was forced back, though resisting bravely. Lieut. Col. Kyle was at his post of duty, encouraging his men, when he received a bullet in his right breast. He survived five hours.

Col. William G. Jones was engaged in the battle of Chickamauga, June, 1863. His regiment, the Thirty-sixth Ohio, was included in Turchin's Brigade of the Fourteenth Corps. He wrote in his pocket memoranda: "Off to the left; merciful Father, have mercy on me and my regiment, and protect us from injury and death"—at 12 o'clock. At 5 that afternoon, he was fatally wounded and expired at 7 that same evening, on the battle-field His remains were taken by the rebels, but in December, 1863, they were exhumed and interred in Spring Grove Cemetery, Cincinnati.

Col. Fred. C. Jones held command of the Tenth Brigade, in October, 1862, marching from Wild Cat, Ky., to Nashville, through a perpetual skirmish, During the battle of Stone River, Col. Jones' regiment, the Twenty-fourth, was on the front and left of the line. During the afternoon, when the rebel assault upon the left became furious, Col. Jones ordered his men to lie down and hold fire, which was obeyed. They rose to pour a deadly volley into the rebel ranks, and rush forward in a fierce charge. The capture of an entire rebel regiment was thus effected, but Col. Jones was shot in the right side. He was carried to the rear. "I know it; I am dying now; pay no attention to me, but look after my wounded men." He survived about ten hours. His remains are buried in Spring Grove, Cincinnati.

Col. Lorin Andrews went with his command to Western Virginia, where he succumbed to exposure and severe duty. He was removed to his home, Gambier, Ohio, where he died surrounded by friends September 18, 1861.

Col. Minor Milliken was sent to repel the attacks of the rebels at the rear. He led a superb cavalry charge against the enemy, vastly superior in numbers, and was cut off with a small portion of his regiment. He disdained to surrender, and ordered his men to cut their way out. A hand-to-hand conflict ensued. Col. Milliken, being an expert swordsman, was able to protect himself with his saber. While parrying the strokes of his assailant, another shot him. The regiment, again charging, recovered his body, stripped of sword, purse and watch.

Col. George P. Webster, with his regiment, the Ninety-eighth, left Steubenville for Covington, Ky., August 23, 1862, marching from that point to Lexington and Louisville. He was placed at the command of the Thirty-fourth Brigade, Jackson's division, Cooke's corps. He fell in the battle of Perryville, and died on the field of battle.

Col. Leander Stem was appointed Colonel of the One Hundred and First Ohio Infantry August 30, 1862. His premonitions that he should fall during his first regular engagement proved too true. As the army was advancing on Murfreesboro, the engagement of Knob Gap occurred, when Col. Stem's regiment charged and took a rebel battery, with several prisoners. The army closed around Murfreesboro, and on the evening of the 30th, the One Hundred and First was engaged in demonstrations against the enemy. Next morning, the battle of Stone River began in earnest. When Col. Stem's regiment began to waver, he called out: "Stand by the flag now, for the good old State of Ohio!" and instantly fell, fatally wounded.

Lieut. Col. Jonas D. Elliott held his position in May, 1863. During the summer of 1864, he commanded the left wing of the regiment at Dodsonville, Ala.; in September, he was sent after Wheeler, and was ordered into camp at Decatur. On the 23d, he was dispatched to Athens, to participate in the attack of Gen. Forrest, of the rebels. Col. Elliott was sent out, with 300 men, and being surrounded by Gen. Forrest, with vastly superior numbers, a forced resistance enabled them to sustain their own ground, until a fresh brigade of rebels arrived, under Gen. Warren. This officer instructed one of his men to shoot Lieut. Col. Elliott, and a moment later he fell. He lingered nineteen days.

Col. Joseph L. Kirby Smith took command of the Forty-third Ohio Regiment. He fell at the battle of Corinth, under Rosecrans.

Lieut. Col. James W. Shane fell, June 27, 1864, in an assault upon the enemy's works at Kenesaw. He survived but forty minutes.

Col. Augustus H. Coleman displayed the abilities of a successful commander. He was in the first charge on the bridge across Antietam Creek. He was fatally wounded. His last words were inquiries regarding his men.

Col. J. W. Lowe commanded the Twelfth Ohio, and was ordered to assist the Tenth in the battle of Carnifex Ferry. Cheering his men, in the thickest of the fight, a rifle ball pierced his forehead, and he fell dead—the first field officer from Ohio killed in battle in the war for the Union.

Lieut. Col. Moses F. Wooster was engaged with his regiment, the One Hundred and First Ohio, at Perryville. He was mortally wounded on the 31st of December, 1862, in the grand effort to stem the tide of defeat at Stone River.

The list of staff officers we refrain from giving, through lack of space.

At the opening of the war, William Dennison was Governor of Ohio. David Tod succeeded him. John Brough was the third War Governor.

Secretary Edwin M. Stanton was one of the most popular war Ministers. He was born in Steubenville, Ohio, in 1815; he was engaged in the United States Circuit Court, in 1860, in a leading law suit, at Cincinnati, known as the Manny and McCormick reaper trial; on the 20th of January, 1862, he was appointed Secretary of War by Mr. Lincoln.

Ex-Secretary Salmon P. Chase's public services in Ohio have already been mentioned in these pages. In 1861, he was appointed Secretary of the Treasury, in Mr. Lincoln's cabinet.

United States Senator B. F. Wade made his reputation in Ohio. This Senator of the State stood at the head of the Committee on the Conduct of the War throughout its duration.

United States Senator John Sherman was a leading member of the Finance Committee, during the war. For some time he was its Chairman.

Jay Cooke was the financial agent of the Government, furnishing money for the payment of the troops. He was born in Portland, Huron Co., Ohio.

In our brief review of the war record of Ohio, we have omitted a vast amount of detail information that would prove interesting to our readers. We believe we have been accurate in whatever we have given, taking as our authority, that accepted "encyclopedia" of Ohio war facts—Whitelaw Reid, who has published a valuable volume on the subject.

SOME DISCUSSED SUBJECTS.

It may be well in glancing over the achievements of Ohio, her momentous labors and grand successes, to refer to the Ordinance of 1787, more minutely than we have done, in relation to many events, since its inherent principles are not only perpetuated in the laws of the entire Northwest, but have since been woven into the general Constitution of the United States. It made permanent the standard and character of immigration, social culture and political and educational institutions. It was thoroughly antislavery and denounced involuntary servitude, which was sanctioned in every other State at that time, with the exception of Massachusetts. It protected religion and property. As late as 1862, Gen. William Henry Harrison, Governor of Indiana, called a convention for the purpose of considering the slavery question, and the feasibility of introducing the system in the new States and Territories being formed. There was at this time a spirited contest, and Illinois, Indiana and possibly Ohio, barely escaped a decision that a full support should be given its introduction

into these States. Its adoption was based upon certain specifications and limits of time, which upon a deeper consideration was deemed perplexing and impractical.

An animated discussion arose not long since, regarding the correct authorship of this important ordinance, and its chief worker in gaining its sanction by Congress.

Mr. Webster ascribed its authorship to Mathew Dane, of Massachusetts, which statement was immediately refuted by Mr. Benton, of Mississippi, who laid claim to it as the birthright of Thomas Jefferson, of Virginia.

It has been almost impossible to obtain accurate reports of the actions of the old Continental Congress, from the fact that its meetings were held in secret, and any reports either narrated or shown in schedules or lists, were deemed a striking lack of trust on the part of the person who furnished the information. It was sufficient that its acts and conclusions be proclaimed without any prelude or reasoning process. Hence it has been difficult to obtain early Congressional documents. But it has been conclusively proven that the great motive power in gaining the approbation of the Ordinance of 1787, was neither Dane nor Jefferson, but Dr. Cutler.

He arrived at New York, July 5 of that year, after a journey from Ipswich, Mass., in his sulky. He obtained lodgings at the "Plow and Harrow," and saw that his good horse was properly cared for and fed at the same place. Congress was then in session, and he had come on a mission for the Ohio Company, to negotiate their grant and its privileges in the new Territory of Ohio. He remained in New York three weeks, constantly engaged in the work vital to the interests of the future great State. But he secured the installment of the principles deemed the corner-stone of a future powerful State constitution. Mr. Poole, Librarian of the Chicago Public Library, searched assiduously for conclusive proof of Dr. Cutler's right to this honor, and in the *North American Review*, Vol. 122, this is emphatically set forth with substantiating proof under his signature.

Other facts have been discussed and proven at a very recent date, relative to the State of Ohio, which heretofore have been omitted, and nearly lost from the historic thread which unites the present with the past.

The first settlement of the lands of the Northwest is necessarily surrounded with interest. But those were exciting, troublesome times, and a few links were passed over lightly. However, the years are not so far removed in the past but the line may be traced.

Mr. Francis W. Miller, of Cincinnati, has supplied some missing chapters. The earliest documentary trace extant, regarding the southern settlement at Cincinnati, is an agreement of partnership between Denman, Filson and Patterson, in the fractional section of land to which the city of Cincinnati was originally limited. It bears the date August 25, 1788. This was entered on the records of Hamilton County, Ohio, October 6, 1803.

A letter from Jonathan Dayton to the Hon. Judge Symmes, dated September 26, 1789, says: "You have been selling your lands, I am told, for two shillings specie, the acre. The price at this moment is, and seems to be, and undoubtedly is, a good one; but as much cannot be said of it when you find hereafter that in consequence of the rise of certificates, another acre, in another payment, may cost you in specie two shillings and sixpence."

A letter from John C. Symmes to Capt. Dayton, dated April 30, 1790, says: "The land in the reserved township is held at much too high a price. Not a foot of land beyond the five-acre lots will sell. Five shillings, specie, or two dollars in certificates, is the utmost they will bring, and they will rarely sell at that."

This state of affairs was in a large degree brought about by the breaking-up of North Bend and a removal of the town to Fort Washington, or Cincinnati, later. A search through the old letters and other preserved documents prove that North Bend was at one time the beginning of the great city on the Ohio, rather than Cincinnati. Judge Symmes wrote, May 18, 1789: "I have not as yet been able to make a decisive choice of a plat for the city, though I have found two pieces of ground, both eligible, but not upon the present plan of a regular square. It is a question of no little moment and difficulty to determine which of these spots is preferable, in point of local situation. I know that at first thought men will decide in favor of that on the Ohio, from the supposition that the Ohio will command more trade and business than the Miami. * * * But if it were built on the Miami, the settlers throughout the purchase would find it very convenient."

Another of the earliest selections of town sites was adjacent to the most southerly point of what is now Delhi Township. To this the name of South Bend was given. Judge Symmes reports November 4, 1790, of this place, over forty framed and hewed-log two-story houses, since the preceding spring. Ensign Luce is said to have taken his troops to North Bend, but decided to remove to Cincinnati, on account of the object of his affections having settled there—the wife of a settler. But this story is refuted by contradictory evidence from Judge Symmes' letters, which illustrate the fact that the post of North Bend was abandoned by Ensign Luce and his men in consequence of a panic, caused by Indian attacks. The removal of the troops caused a general decline of the town. Again, history and letters from the same eminent Judge, assert that Fort Washington was completed and garrisoned by Maj. Doughty before the close of that same year, and was begun by him during the summer, that Ensign Luce must have still been at his post at the bend at that time. It has been, therefore, recently accepted that the traditional "black eyes" and the "Indian panic," had nothing to do with the founding of Cincinnati, and that the advantages of the position gained the victory.

Cincinnati has advanced, not only in prosperity and culture, but in national significance. Our readers must have observed, in perusing these pages, that

from this city and the State which it represents, have emanated some of the superior intellects which have used their wise faculties and talents, tempered by a wise judgment, in behalf of the American Union.

The originality of the Senecas and Wyandots have been debated at some length, while others have called the tribes the same, having two branches. We have searched the earlier records and have found an authenticated account of these two tribes.

The Indian tribes of Ohio were originally bold, fierce and stalwart. The country watered by the Sandusky and its tributaries was frequented by the Wyandot tribe, who came from the north side of the St. Lawrence River. The Senecas were blood relatives of this tribe. Both tribes were numbered by the thousands. A war originated between them, in this manner: A Wyandot chief desired to wed the object of his affections, who laughed him to scorn, because he had taken no scalps, and was no warrior "to speak of." To change her opinion, he led out a party, and falling upon a number of Senecas, slaughtered them mercilessly, that he might hasten to the side of his dusky belle, with his trophies. This act inaugurated hostilities, which extended through a century. The Wyandots began to fear extermination, and, gathering their entire effects, the natives escaped to Green Bay, and settled in several villages. But the Senecas made up a war party and followed them, killing many Wyandots and burning some of their villages. They then returned to Canada. Soon thereafter, they secured fire-arms from the French. Again they followed the Wyandots, firing their guns into their huts, and frightening them severely. They did not succeed as well as they expected. But the third party nearly exterminated the villages, because the young warriors were nearly all gone to war with the Foxes. The few at home escaping, promised to return with the Senecas, but desired two days for preparation. The Wyandots sent word to the two villages left undisturbed, and held a consultation. They decided to go as near the Senecas as possible, unobserved, and discover their real motive. They found them feasting on two roasted Wyandots, shouting over their victory. They danced nearly all night, and then fell asleep. A little before daylight, the Wyandots fell on them, leaving not one to carry back the news.

The Wyandots then procured guns, and began to grow formidable. They set out to return to their own country, and proceeded on their way as far as Detroit, where they met a party of Senecas, on the lake. A fierce conflict ensued, and the Wyandots beheld the Senecas fall, to the last man, suffering fearful carnage themselves. They soon settled in this part of the world, their principal village being on the Sandusky. Northwestern Ohio was particularly dangerous with new Indian tribes, and the Wyandots were cruelly aggressive. The death of their chief, and their total defeat by Harrison, destroyed their power forever.

On the 29th of September, 1817, a treaty was held, at the foot of the rapids of the Miami of Lake Erie, between Lewis Cass and Duncan McArthur,

Commissioners of the United States, and the sachems, chiefs and warriors of the Wyandot, Seneca, Delaware, Shawnee, Potawattomie, Ottawa and Chippewa nations. *All their lands in Ohio were ceded* to the United States forever.

There was really not a Seneca in the Seneca nation. They were chiefly Cayugas, Mohawks, Onondagas, Tuscarawas, Wyandots and Oneidas. But the Mingoes were originally Cayugas, and their chief was the celebrated Logan. After the murder of his family by the whites, the Mingoes were scattered over the territory northwest of the Ohio.

The notorious Simon Girty was adopted by the Senecas. Girty's name was a terror and fiendish horror for many years. He not only led the Indians in their atrocities, but he added barbarism to their native wickedness.

CONCLUSION.

When peace was proclaimed, after the surrender of Gen. Robert E. Lee to Gen. U. S. Grant, the volunteer troops disbanded, and a return to home industries instituted, Ohio, like many other States, gave direct attention to the interests of returned soldiers. The thrift of the State was augmented by a spasmodic, and thereafter recognized as a fictitious, demand for products, commercial and industrial pursuits redoubled their forces. But the great wave of stagnation swept over this fair land—the re-action of a war excitement. Laborers were many, but wages were inadequate. Deeper and deeper settled this lethargy—called by many "hard times"—until the wheels of commercial life revolved slowly, and from the workshops and the factories went up the echoes of privation and distress. There was no famine, no fever, no epidemic, it was simply exhaustion. In the larger cities there was much suffering. Idle people loitered about, barely seeking employment, the task seeming worse than hopeless.

During the years 1870, 1871 and 1872, the stringent measures brought about by the depressed state of business retarded any material advancement in general matters. The years 1873–74 were marked by a preceptible improvement, and a few factories were established, while larger numbers were employed in those already founded. The year 1875 was under the direction of a Democratic Legislature. It was marked in many respects by a "reverse motion" in many laws and regulations.

The Legislature which convened in 1876, January 3, was Republican in the main. It repealed the "Geghan Law" passed by the preceding body. At the time of its adoption, there was the most intense feeling throughout the State, the charge being made that it was in the interests of the Catholics. Among the general enactments were laws re-organizing the government of the State institutions, which the previous Legislature had ordered according to their own belief to follow new doctrines. The office of Comptroller of the Treasury was abolished. The powers of municipal corporations to levy taxes was limited, and their authority to incur debts was limited. Furthermore, this body prohibited any municipal appropriations, unless the actual money was in the Treasury to meet

the same in full. A law was passed for the protection of children under fourteen years of age, exhibited in public shows.

The temperance cause received more vigorous and solid support than was ever rendered by the State previously. A common-sense, highly moral and exalted platform was formed and supported by many leading men.

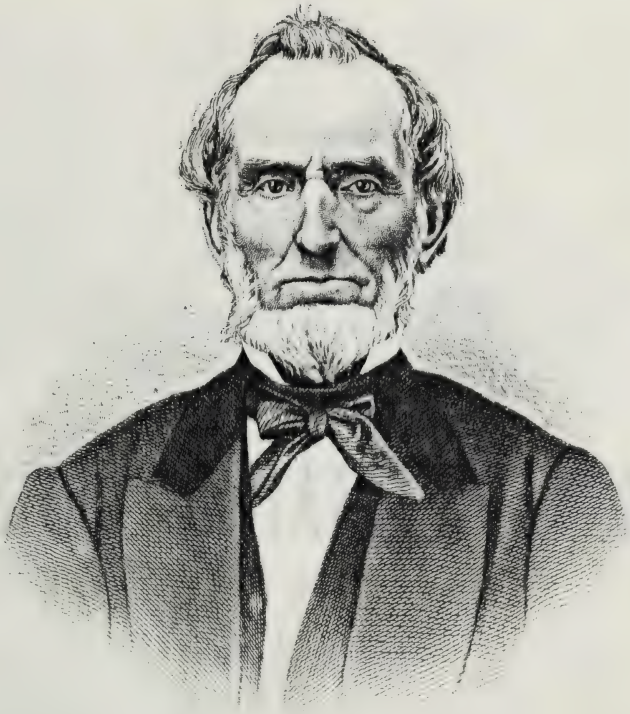
This year witnessed the serious "strikes" among the miners in Stark and Wayne Counties. The consequences were painful—distress, riots and distruction of property.

The State Mine Inspector reported 300 coal mines in the State, with only twenty-five in operation. Not over 3,000,000 tons of coal were raised during the year, owing to the dullness of the times.

The State charities reported the aggregate number under public care to be 29,508. The taxation for the maintenance of these classes was one and one six-hundredth of a mill on each dollar of taxable property.

The reports given of the year 1877 indicated a revival of business interests and prosperity. The State produced of wheat, 27,306,566 bushels; rye, 914,106 bushels; buckwheat, 225,822 bushels; oats, 29,325,611; barley, 1,629,817 bushels; corn, 101,884,305 bushels; timothy, tons of hay, 2,160,334; clover, tons of hay, 286,265; flax, pounds of fiber, 7,343,294; potatoes, 10,504,278 bushels; sweet potatoes, 126,354½ bushels; tobacco, 24,214,950 pounds; sorghum, sugar, 7,507¼ pounds; syrup, 1,180,255 gallons; maple sugar, 1,625,215 pounds; maple syrup, 324,036 gallons; honey, 1,534,902 pounds.

The growth of manufacturing industries, the remarkable annual increase in stock and in agricultural products since 1877, leave no room to doubt the rapid advancement of Ohio in general wealth.



Right, t is always Right
Bays Rawson



PART III.

HISTORY OF HANCOCK COUNTY.



HISTORY OF HANCOCK COUNTY.

BY R. C. BROWN.

CHAPTER I.

THE MOUND-BUILDERS—THEIR GREAT ANTIQUITY—CHARACTER OF THEIR WORKS—THE WONDERFUL MONUMENTS WHICH ATTEST THEIR OCCUPATION OF THIS STATE—SOME EVIDENCES OF THEIR PRESENCE IN HANCOCK COUNTY—THE NORTH AMERICAN INDIANS, AND THEIR SUPPOSED ORIGIN—BRIEF SKETCH OF THEM—THE OHIO TRIBES—PURCHASE OF THEIR LANDS BY THE UNITED STATES—OHIO RESERVATIONS, AND FINAL EXTINCTION OF THE INDIAN TITLE—INDIAN VILLAGES IN THIS COUNTY—EXTRACTS FROM THE "PERSONAL REMINISCENCES" OF JOB CHAMBERLIN—HIS RECOLLECTIONS OF THE INDIANS WHO FREQUENTED THIS PORTION OF THE STATE—THEIR SOCIAL RELATIONS WITH THE FIRST SETTLERS.

> And did the dust
> Of these fair solitudes once stir with life
> And burn with passion? Let the mighty mounds
> That overlook the rivers, or that rise
> In the dim forests crowded with old oaks,
> Answer. A race that long has passed away
> Built them; a disciplined and populous race
> Heaped with long toil the earth, while yet the Greek
> Was hewing the Pentelicus to forms
> Of symmetry, and rearing on its rock
> The glittering Parthenon.—*Bryant.*

IT is now generally believed that a very numerous race of people occupied a large portion of this continent long anterior to the coming of the North American Indians, but there is no authentic history regarding them further than can be gleaned from the multiplicity of massive works stretching from the great lakes to the Gulf of Mexico. These works all bear the same general characteristics, and are either mounds, effigies, or defensive inclosures, some of which are of a very marked and extraordinary character. This long forgotten race, called Mound-Builders, in lieu of a more accurate designation, evidently possessed a distinctive civilization, and from the peculiar hieroglyphic characters sometimes found upon their stone implements, it has been thought probable they may have had a written language, though there is little evidence on which to found such a conclusion. But, beyond their almost imperishable monuments, the archæologist seeks in vain for a further solution of the grand problem of the coming, subsequent

HISTORY OF HANCOCK COUNTY

life and disappearance of this pre-historic race. On opening a mound he finds only moldering skeletons, scattered remnants of earthenware, rude weapons of warfare, axes of stone, flint drills, spear-heads, pestles, badges, and many other specimens of stone ornaments cut and polished from material rarely indigenous to the place where found, showing their owners to have been a migratory people or a conquering nation.

A thousand interesting queries arise respecting them, but the most searching investigations only give us vague and unsatisfactory speculations as an answer. If we knock at their tombs, no spirit reposing within responds to the summons, but a sepulchral echo comes ringing down the ages, reminding us how fruitless the search into that inscrutable past, over which the curtain of oblivion seems to have been irrevocably drawn. Whence came these people; who and what were they, and whither did they go? Some writers have discovered evidences, convincing, apparently, to themselves, that this pre-historic race came from the other side of the globe, and that their advent was made at different times and from different points of a general hive in the supposed cradle of humanity—Central Asia. Others think them to have been the forgotten ancestors of the degenerate and now decaying American Indians, from whom, they having no preservative written language, the memory of their ancestors has gradually slipped. Still others fancy them to have been the original indigenous, spontaneous product of the soil. Regardless, however, of the origin, progress and destiny of this curious people, the fact of their having been here is certain; therefore the best that can be done by the archæologist is to examine their works and draw from them the conclusions that seem the most probable.

The mounds vary in height from about five to thirty feet, with several notable exceptions, when they reach an altitude of eighty to ninety feet. The inclosures contain villages, altars, temples, idols, cemeteries, monuments, camps, fortifications and pleasure grounds. They are chiefly of some symmetrical figure, as circle, ellipse, rectangular parallelogram, or regular polygon, and inclose from one or two acres to as high as fifty acres. The circumvallations generally contain the mounds, although there are many of the latter to be found standing isolated on the banks of a stream or in the midst of a broad plateau, being evidently thus placed as outposts of offense or defense, for the fact that they were a very warlike, and even conquering race, is fully attested by the numerous fortifications to be met with wherever any trace of them is found.

The works of the Mound-Builders in the United States are divided into three groups: The first group extends from the upper sources of the Allegheny River to the headwaters of the Missouri; the second occupies the Ohio and Mississippi Valleys, and the third stretches across the country, with very little interruption, from South Carolina to the western limits of Texas. These groups are subdivided into three varieties of elevations—mounds, inclosures and effigies—which are designated as mounds of sepulture, sacrifice, worship, observation, commemoration and defense. Mounds of sepulture are more numerous than the others, and conical in shape. They usually contain the bones of one or more skeletons, accompanied by ornaments and implements of stone, mica, slate, shell or obsidian; besides pottery, whole and fragmentary, bone and copper beads, and the bones of animals. Mounds of sacrifice are recognized by their stratification, being

convex and constructed of clay and sand on the normal level of the soil, on top of which can be found a layer of ashes, charcoal and calcined bones, which in turn has a layer of clay and sand, followed by more ashes, charcoal, etc., till the gradual upbuilding resulted in the manner we now see. These mounds also often contain beads, stone implements, pottery and rude sculpture, and occasionally a skeleton, showing that they may have been used as burial places. Mounds of worship, which are comparatively few, have generally a large base and low elevation, and are in some instances terraced with inclined ways to the top. Their size and character have led to the inference that these flat-topped mounds originally were crowned with temples of wood, for had they been stone, traces of that material would be found. Mounds of observation, or beacon or signal mounds, are generally found upon elevated positions, and apparently could have subserved no other purpose than as "look-out" stations, or beacon points, and as confirmatory of the latter purpose, ashes and charcoal have been found imbedded in their summits. These mounds occur on the line of what are considered the outposts of these pre-historic conquerors. Mounds in commemoration of some important event or character are here and there to be found, and they are thus classed because, from their composition, position and character, they are neither sepulchral, sacrificial, temple, defensive nor observation mounds. They are generally constructed of earth, but in some instances in Ohio, where they are stone erections, they are considered to be monumental. Mounds of defense, however, with the exception, possibly, of one or two effigies in Ohio, are the most remarkable. These mounds in some instances give evidence that their builders were acquainted with all the peculiarities in the construction of the best defensive earth and stone works. They are always upon high ground and precipitous bluffs, and in positions that would now be selected by the accomplished strategist. The gateways to these forts are narrow and defended by the usual wall in front of them, whilst the double angle at the corners and projecting walls along the sides for enfilading attack show a knowledge of warfare that is phenomenal in so rude a people as their implements would indicate. Moats are often noticed around these fortifications, and cisterns or wells are to be found within the inclosures.

When the first settlers arrived at the sites of Marietta and Circleville, Ohio, a number of these earthworks were discovered, some of which yet exist; and at Newark when the circumvallation, known as the "fort," was first seen by those who settled there in the early years of the century, a large tree, whose age was possibly not less than six hundred years, stood upon one of the embankments over twenty feet above the general level, thus giving great antiquity to the erection. Ohio contains many curious forms of these works, two of the most singular being in Licking County and known respectively as the "Eagle" and "Alligator" effigies. The first is a bird with outstretched wings raised about three or four feet above the ground in the same manner as a bas-relief of the sculptors; the other is an animal closely resembling an alligator. They are supposed to have been idols, or in some way connected with the religion of the people who built them.

In Ross County a defensive inclosure occupies the summit of a lofty, detached hill, twelve miles west of Chillicothe. This hill is not far from 400 feet in perpendicular height, and some of its sides are actually inaccessi-

ble, all of them being abrupt. The defenses consisted originally of a stone wall carried around the hill a little below the brow, the remains of this wall existing now only in a line of detached stones, but showing plainly their evident purpose and position. The area inclosed embraced about 140 acres, and the wall itself was two and one-quarter miles in length. Trees of the largest size now grow upon the ruins of this fortification. About six miles east of Lebanon, Warren County, on the Little Miami River, is another extensive fortification, called "Fort Ancient." It stands on a plain, nearly horizontal, about 236 feet above the level of the river, between two branches with very steep banks. The extreme length of these works in a direct line is nearly a mile, although following their angles, retreating and salient, they probably reach a distance of six miles. Another of these inclosures is located in the southeastern part of Highland County, on an eminence 500 feet above the level of Brush Creek, which washes its base. The walls of the fortifications are over half a mile long, and the works are locally called "Fort Hill." The remains of an inclosure may yet be seen near Carrollton, a few miles south of Dayton, Montgomery County. All of these inclosures were evidently constructed for defensive purposes, and give signal proofs of the military knowledge of their builders.

Burial mounds are very numerous in this State, and there are few counties that have not a greater or less number of these tumuli. The most remarkable of this class was a mound opened by John S. B. Matson, in Hardin County, in which over 300 human skeletons were found. Some antiquarians, however, entertain the belief that they were not all the remains of Mound-Builders, but many of them Indian remains, as it is well known that the latter often interred their dead in those monuments of their predecessors. When the first band of pioneers to the Western Reserve arrived at the mouth of Conneaut Creek, July 4, 1796, they discovered several mounds, and could easily trace the outline of a large cemetery then overgrown with forest. Explorations were subsequently made, and some gigantic skeletons exhumed from mounds which stood on the site of Conneaut, Ashtabula County. The frames and jaw-bones were those of giants, and could not have belonged to the race of Indians then inhabiting any portion of this country. Several years ago a burial mound was opened in Logan County, from which three skeletons were taken. The frame of one was in an excellent state of preservation, and measured nearly seven feet from the top of the skull to the lower part of the heel. In 1850 a mound lying on the north bank of Big Darby, about one mile northwest of Plain City, in Union County, was opened and several massive skeletons taken therefrom. The lower jaw-bones, like those found at Conneaut, could be easily fitted over the jaw of a very large man, outside the flesh. These bones—and they are usually large wherever found—indicate that the Mound-Builders were a gigantic race of beings, fully according in size with the colossal remains they have left behind them.

The largest mound in Ohio, called the "Great Mound," is located on the east bank of the Miami River, a short distance southeast of Miamisburg, Montgomery County. The surface elevation at this point is more than 150 feet above the level of the stream. The mound measures 800 feet around the base, and about sixty-five feet in height, though archæologists claim that it was originally more than eighty feet high. Explorations and the wear and tear of the elements have worn off the summit about fifteen feet. At the

time the pioneers first came to the Miami Valley this mound was covered with trees, a large maple crowning the top, from which, it is said, the few cabins then constituting Dayton were plainly visible. In 1869 a shaft was sunk from the top of the mound to a distance of two feet below the base, and about eight feet from the surface a human skeleton was found in a sitting posture, facing due east. A deposit of vegetable matter, bones of small animals, also wood and stone surrounded the skeleton, while a cover of clay, ashes and charcoal seems to have been the mode of burial.

Few traces of the Mound-Builders are now left in Hancock County, although it has been stated by several intelligent pioneers that many small mounds were found by the first settlers, who regarded them as "Indian graveyards." All of the tumuli in this portion of the State were each about five feet high and thirty feet in diameter, and on being opened exhibited the same evidences of construction as those previously mentioned. Three of these mounds were located northeast of Cannonsburg, in Union Township; two on Section 11, and one on Section 13, Orange Township; one on the old John Povenmire farm in Section 21, Liberty Township, and one about a mile south of Mount Blanchard, on the farm of Isaac Elder. Those in Orange and Union Townships were opened by William M. McKinley and Fayette Ballard, who found human remains in each mound, also flint arrow heads and other implements of stone, some of which Mr. McKinley has now in his possession. Most, if not all of these tumuli have been nearly obliterated by cultivation, as no effort was ever made toward preserving them from the iconoclastic wantonness of the agriculturist. No doubt many more small mounds once existed in other townships of Hancock County, which the plow has long since obliterated. Numerous evidences of this strange people cannot be looked for here, but that they once inhabited the valley of the Blanchard is beyond all reasonable doubt.

"The red man came—
The roaming hunter tribes, warlike and fierce,
And the Mound-Builders vanished from the earth."

The question of the origin of the North American Indian has long interested archæologists, and is one of the most difficult they have been called upon to answer. The commonly accepted opinion is that they are a derivative race, and sprang from one or more of the ancient peoples of Asia. Some writers have put forward the theory that the Indians, from their tribal organization, faint similarity of language and religion, and the high cheek-bone in the well developed specimen of the race, are the descendants of the two lost tribes of Israel. Others contend that they descended from the Hindoos, and that the Brahmin idea, which uses the sun to symbolize the Creator, has its counterpart in the sun-worship of some Indian tribes. They have lived for centuries without much apparent progress—purely a hunter race—while the Caucasian, under the transforming power of Christianity—the parent of art, science and civil government—has made the most rapid advancement. Under the influences of the church, however, the Indian has often shown a commendable capability for accepting the teachings of civilization; but the earnest efforts of her devoted missionaries have often been nullified or totally destroyed by the unwise policy pursued by the governing power, or the dishonesty and selfishness of the officials in charge. Stung to madness at our injustice and usurpation of his hunting grounds, he has remained a savage, and his career in the upward march of man is forever

stunted. The Indian race is in the position of a half-grown giant cut down before reaching manhood. There never has been a savage people who could compare with them in their best estate. Splendid in *physique*, with intense shrewdness and common sense, and possessed of a bravery unexcelled, there never was a race of uncivilized people who had within them so much to make them great, as the red man. Whatever he has been or is, he was never charged with being a coward or a fool, and as compared to the barbarians of other portions of the globe, he is as "Hyperion to a satyr."

The advent of the whites upon the shores of the Western continent engendered in the bosoms of the aborigines a spark of jealousy, which, by the impolitic course of the former, was soon fanned into a blaze, and a contest was thereby inaugurated that sooner or later must end in the extermination of the latter. The struggle has been long and bitter; many a campaign has been planned by warriors worthy and able to command armies for the destruction of the pale-faced invaders. When Philip struck the blow which he hoped would forever crush the growing power of the white man, both recognized the supreme importance of the contest, and the courage and resources of the New England colonists were taxed to the utmost to avoid a defeat, which meant final destruction. The fierce resistance of later days, as the Indians were driven farther and farther toward the setting sun, are historic facts with which the student is already familiar. The conspiracy of Pontiac, the famous Ottawa chieftain, in 1763, failed in its object of extermination, and the bravery and sagacity of the celebrated Indian leaders, Brandt, Red Jacket, Cornplanter, Cornstalk, Logan, Black Hoof, Tarhe, Little Turtle and Blue Jacket, could not prevail against the heroes of the Revolution, and the triumph of Wayne in 1794 closed a long series of bloody Indian wars. A few years passed by when Tecumseh flashed out like a brilliant meteor in the firmament of great Indian leaders, and organized the Western tribes for a last desperate effort to hold their own against the advancing tide of civilization. But he too went down in defeat and death before the prowess of Harrison's legions. When the Creeks, in 1813, through the intrigue of Tecumseh, challenged the people of the South to mortal combat, it required the genius of a Jackson, and soldiers worthy of such a chief, to avert a serious calamity. But since the decisive battle of Tohopeka, March 27, 1814, there has been but one Indian war of any considerable magnitude, viz.: the Seminole war in Florida. The Black Hawk outbreak in Illinois, in 1832, required but a few weeks' service of raw militia to quell, but the Seminoles of Florida, led by the indomitable Osceola, a half-breed of great talents, carried on a bitter struggle from 1835 to 1839, when their power was completely crushed, and they were soon after removed beyond the Mississippi. Since then campaigns have dwindled into mere raids, and battles into skirmishes. The massacre of Custer's command in Montana must be regarded as an accident of no permanent importance, and a dozen such melancholy events would not in the least alarm the country. Indian fighting, though not free from peril, now serves a useful purpose for the army graduates of West Point, who might otherwise go to their graves without ever having smelled hostile gunpowder.

Two hundred years ago the white man lived in America only by the red man's consent, and within that period the combined strength of the red man might have driven the white into the sea. Along the Atlantic coast are still to be seen the remains of the rude fortifications which the early settlers



Jonathan Parker



built to protect themselves from the host of enemies around; but to find the need of such protection now one must go beyond the Mississippi, to a few widely scattered points in Arizona, New Mexico and Oregon. The enemy that once camped in sight of the Atlantic has retreated toward the slope of the Pacific, and from that long retreat there can be no returning. East of the stream which he called the Father of Waters, nothing is left of the Indian except the beautiful names he gave and the graves of his dead, save here and there the remnants of once powerful tribes, living on reservations by the sufferance of their conquerors. The Indian has resisted and will continue to resist every effort to civilize him by coercion, every attempt to force at the point of the bayonet the white man's ideas into his brain. He does not want and will not have our manners or our code of morals forced upon him. The greatest redeeming feature in the Indian character and career is that he has always preferred the worst sort of freedom to the best sort of slavery. Whether his choice was a wise one or not the reader can determine; but it is impossible not to feel some admiration for the indomitable spirit that has never bowed to the yoke, never called any man "master." The Indian is a savage, but he never was, never will be, a slave. We have treated him like a dog and are surprised that he bites. In a speech in New York City, not long before his death, Gen. Samuel Houston, indisputable authority on such matters, declared with solemn emphasis that "there never was an Indian war in which the white man was not the aggressor." Aggression leading to war is not our heaviest sin against the Indian. He has been deceived, cheated and robbed to such an extent that he looks upon most of the white race as villains to whom he should show no quarter. A very decided feeling of justice to the abused red man is gaining ground of late years, and numerous able writers have been engaged in defending him, among whom are Joaquin Miller, the poet, and Hon. A. B. Meacham. But we can well afford, after getting all his land and nearly exterminating him, to extend to him a little cheap sympathy.

The Indians of this continent were never so numerous as has generally been supposed, although they were spread over a vast extent of country. Continual wars prevented any great increase, and their mode of life was not calculated to promote longevity or numbers. The great body of them originally were along the Atlantic seaboard, and most of the Indian tribes had traditions that their forefathers lived in splendid hunting grounds far to the westward. The best authorities affirm that, on the discovery of this country, the number of the scattered aborigines of the territory now forming the States of Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Kentucky and Michigan could not have exceeded 18,000.

The earliest date of any authentic knowledge of the Indian in this section is 1650, when the Eries held possession of the northern portion of what is now Ohio. They lived along the southern borders of the lake which bears their name, but when their domains were invaded by the Iroquois, about 1655, most of them fell before their relentless foes, whilst the remainder became incorporated with other tribes, were driven farther southward, or adopted into those of their conquerors. During the first half of the seventeenth century the Shawnees were living along the valley of the Ohio, but they, too, were dispersed by the Five Nations, or Iroquois, and dispossessed of their lands, though they subsequently returned to their early hunting grounds. For many years before and after 1700 this entire territory was

occupied by the remnants of defeated tribes, who were permitted to remain by sufferance of their conquerors, the latter exacting a tribute, collected at will from the wandering and unsettled tribes. In 1750, however, something like permanent occupation had again taken place, and we find in what is now Ohio the Wyandots, Delawares, Shawnees, Miamis, Munsees, Ottawas, Senecas, Cayugas, Mohawks, Oneidas and Onondagas, the last five being known in history as the Mingoes of Ohio.

The Wyandots then inhabited the valleys of the Sandusky River and its tributaries, and also dwelt around Sandusky Bay, and along a few other streams flowing into Lake Erie. The Delawares and Munsees occupied the Muskingum Valley. The Shawnees lived along the Scioto from the Ohio to the Scioto Marsh, and also had a few towns on the Miami and Mad Rivers. The Miamis occupied the country drained by the headwaters of the Maumee, Wabash and Great Miami Rivers, from the Loramie portage across to Fort Wayne and down the Maumee Valley. The Ottawas were scattered along the Lower Blanchard, Auglaize and Maumee Rivers, and around the western end of the lake; while the Mingoes, composed of Senecas, Cayugas, Mohawks, Oneidas and Onondagas, were settled in the eastern and northeastern portions of the State, but, like the other tribes, were gradually pushed westward.

By the Greenville treaty, ratified August 3, 1795, the United States acquired from the Indians about two-thirds of the present territory of Ohio. The boundary line began at the mouth of the Cuyahoga River; thence up that stream to the portage leading to the Tuscarawas River; thence along the portage and down the Tuscarawas to the forks (the town of Bolivar); thence in a southwesterly direction to Loramie's store, on the Great Miami River (in Shelby County); thence to Fort Recovery (in Mercer County); thence southwest to the Ohio, opposite the mouth of the Kentucky River. All of the lands east and south of this line were ceded by the Indians to the Government. The previous treaties of Fort McIntosh, in 1785, Fort Finney, in 1786, and Fort Harmar, in 1789, had a similar object in view, but failed in accomplishing a peace of sufficient permanence for the whites to obtain possession of the coveted territory. The Indians also ceded to the Government, by the treaty of Greenville, several tracts within the territory still retained by them, for the establishment of trading posts or settlements. Those in Ohio were located at or near Loramie's store, and on the St. Mary's, Auglaize, Maumee and Sandusky Rivers, and Sandusky Bay. The tribes likewise guaranteed to the people of the United States free passage by land and water between said posts. By a treaty made at Fort Industry (Toledo), July 4, 1805, all of the Western Reserve west of the Cuyahoga River was secured. In November, 1807, the lands north of the Maumee were purchased by treaty at Detroit, Mich., from the Ottawas, Wyandots, Pottawatomies and Chippewas; and in November, 1808, the same tribes, with the Shawnees, by a treaty at Brownstown, Mich., granted a tract two miles wide for a road through the Black Swamp, from the Maumee Rapids to the east line of the Western Reserve. On the 29th of September, 1817, a treaty was made at the foot of the Maumee Rapids, with the Wyandots, Ottawas, Shawnees, Delawares, Senecas, Pottawatomies and Chippewas, and all of the lands in this State then remaining in possession of the Indians were ceded to the United States.

Certain reservations were set aside by this treaty for the uses of the sev-

eral Indian tribes, to which large additions were made by a treaty concluded at St. Mary's, Ohio, with the Wyandots, Senecas, Shawnees and Ottawas, September 17, 1818. The Wyandot Reservations embraced a tract of twelve miles square around Upper Sandusky, one mile square on Broken Sword Creek, 55,680 acres lying on the north and east of the Upper Sandusky Reserve, and 16,000 acres surrounding the Big Spring at the east end of the marsh (in what is now the southwest corner of Seneca County, and extending across the line into Big Lick Township, Hancock County), the last mentioned tract being "for the use of the Wyandots residing at Solomon's Town and on Blanchard's Fork." The Delawares had a reserve of three miles square immediately south of the Wyandots, extending into Marion County. The Ottawas had three tracts set aside for their residence, viz.: five miles square on the Blanchard River around the village of Ottawa (Putnam County), three miles square on the Little Auglaize around Oquanoxa's Town, and thirty-four square miles on the south side of the Maumee, including the village of the Indian chief McCarty. The Shawnees had reserved ten miles square around their village of Wapakoneta (Auglaize County), twenty square miles adjoining it on the east, twenty-five square miles on Hog Creek, also adjoining the first mentioned tract, and forty-eight square miles surrounding the Indian village of Lewistown (Logan County). Another tract containing 8,960 acres, lying west of the Lewistown Reservation, was set aside for mixed bands of Shawnees and Senecas. The "Senecas of Sandusky" were given 40,000 acres on Sandusky River, lying in what is now Seneca and Sandusky Counties. Besides the foregoing reservations, numerous smaller tracts were granted at different points to individual chiefs, half-breeds and adopted whites then living with the Indians. In 1818 the Miamis, whose reservation included lands on St. Mary's River, near the west line of the State, ceded the same to the United States. In 1829 the Delaware Reserve was purchased, and, in 1831, the reservations located in Logan, Auglaize, Seneca, Hancock and Sandusky Counties, were likewise obtained, and those of the Ottawas in 1838. In March, 1842, the Wyandots ceded their lands to the Government, and in July of the following year the last Indian left Ohio for the far West. Thus, after a struggle of more than three-quarters of a century, the red man was at last forced to succumb to the strength and prowess of a superior race, and his bloodthirsty efforts were futile to stem the onward march of American civilization.

The territory embraced in Hancock County lay between the Indian towns in what is now Wyandot and Seneca Counties and those located on the Blanchard, Auglaize and Maumee Rivers. It was a portion of the hunting grounds of the Wyandots and Ottawas, who within the period of American history roamed at will through its unbroken forests. The Wyandots had a small village on the site of Findlay, and cultivated corn along the river within the present limits of the city. Howe, in his "Historical Collections," speaking of the settlement of Wilson Vance at Fort Findlay, in 1821, says: "There were then some ten or fifteen Wyandot families in the place, who had made improvements. They were a temperate, fine-looking people, and friendly to the first settlers." Howe was, probably, mistaken, as under the treaty of 1817 the Indians gave up all claims to these lands and removed to certain reservations set aside for their benefit, one of which was "reserved for the use of the Wyandots residing at Solomon's Town and on Blanchard's Fork." This plainly indicates that there were

settlements of Wyandots on the Blanchard, and we believe Findlay was the site of one of these villages.

The writer called upon Mrs. Elizabeth Eberly, a daughter of Benjamin J. Cox, who now resides near Portage, Wood County, and in reply to his questions she gave the following information: "When my father settled at Fort Findlay, in 1815, there were eight or ten families of friendly Wyandots living around and in the block-houses of the fort. They tilled two fields, one above and the other below Fort Findlay, on the south bank of the Blanchard. Kuqua was the chief, and one of his sons, Tree-Top-in-The-Water, died in a cabin west of the fort before the Indians removed to Big Spring Reservation. New Bearskin, another of Kuqua's sons, lived in one of the block-houses, and the old chief also occupied one of the same buildings. Six or seven miles down the river the Wyandots had another village, which my father sometimes visited. Solomon, who once lived in Logan County, dwelt at the latter village, and often came to our house. We never had any trouble with the Indians who lived upon the Blanchard, and when they removed to Big Spring, Kuqua offered my father a tract of land near the spring if he would go and live with them, but he did not care to go, and refused the kind offer." The foregoing may be regarded as indubitable proof that the Wyandots had two villages on the Blanchard, in what is now Hancock County, and also that the sites of these towns were at Findlay and "Indian Green," in Liberty Township.

As further evidence of the existence of an Indian village on the site of Findlay, an excerpt is here given from the work of Squire Carlin, who is recognized as a reliable authority on local pioneer history: "When I settled at Findlay, in the fall of 1826," says Mr. Carlin, "several small cabins stood west of the old fort, and others southwest of the residence of Wilson Vance, in the rear of the Sherman House site. There were no Indians living here at that time, but I understood these cabins were built by the Indians, and that they also had raised corn on the river bottoms above the fort. It has always been my impression that an Indian village once existed at this point, though I believe the occupants moved away soon after the treaty of 1818 and before the erection of Hancock County in 1820."

In the history of Liberty Township, the Indian village that once stood on the north bank of the Blanchard, in Section 7, is spoken of. It is generally believed that the Wyandots had a settlement here up to the treaty of 1818, when all these lands having been ceded to the Government, this band removed to their reservation at the Big Spring. Further down the river, in Putnam County, the Ottawas had, up to the time of their removal to the West, two villages, one on the site of Ottawa, and another two miles above that point. These towns were known as Upper and Lower 'Tawa, the latter being on the site of Ottawa, and the former between that and Gilboa. The Wyandot village in Liberty Township was surrounded by a clearing of some twelve acres, whereon the Indians had a graveyard, and a plum orchard. It has been claimed that an earth fortification once ran along the brow of the hill overlooking the river. Careful examination of what is said to be the remains of this defensive work leads the writer to believe the cut back of the elevation was made by the washings of the surface drainage into the river. There is nothing here to sustain the theory of an artificial earthwork, and no reasonable grounds upon which to base such a conclusion. The site of this village was deserted prior to the coming of any white set-

tlers to its vicinity, and was subsequently owned by Robert McKinnis. A man named Ellison settled upon this tract and began opening the graves for the purpose of obtaining the ornaments or valuables usually interred with the Indian dead. The Indians, learning of the desecration, visited Ellison, and so thoroughly scared him that he soon afterward left the county. Some of the pioneers tell us it was the general belief that Ellison stole about a half bushel of jewelry from these graves, but this is, no doubt, an exaggeration. There is scarcely a township in the county where Indian remains have not been discovered, as they buried their dead in any spot which fancy dictated. Ornaments of gold, silver or copper were usually found in each grave. Some of the pioneers have claimed that Mount Blanchard is also the site of an Indian village, and, from the large number of relics found there by early settlers, it is highly probable that a band of Wyandots once dwelt at that point.

The character of the Indians who frequented this county cannot be more appropriately illustrated than by giving a few extracts from the "Personal Reminiscences" of Job Chamberlin, Esq., of Findlay, written in 1874: "The county," says Mr. Chamberlin (speaking of the early years of settlement beginning with 1822), "was full of Indians, chiefly Wyandots. Those that we became the best acquainted with were Solomon, Bigpan, Bearskin, Kuqua, Johnnycake, Half John, Isaac Hill and Armstrong. Solomon had been a chief in the war of 1812, and he had the temerity to boast, to some of his white friends here, of his barbarous feats and inhuman treatment of his captives. He said at one time he cut his prisoners' tongues off. He compelled them to put their tongues out, and as he could not hold them with his bare hand, he would take a piece of flannel in his hand and catch hold of the tongue with that, then he could hold it and pull it out as far as possible to cut it off. He would make a gurgling noise down his throat to mimic the victims of his cruelty in their efforts to talk. He also boasted of having killed twenty women at one time. He and another Indian went to a house where twenty women were collected together for safety, when he broke open the door and went in, whilst his companion stood at the door to prevent their escape. He said there was one woman who fought him with a chair, and came very near overpowering him, while the others crawled under the beds. But he finally killed the one who gave him battle, and then had nothing to do but drag out the others and tomahawk them.

"Kuqua was their doctor, and practiced divination. To cure the patient he would pow-wow around the sick bed, and thump around the room until the demons, which were supposed to be the cause of the disease, would be driven away, and the patient restored to health. * * * The Indians possessed the same fanatical belief in witchcraft that was so disgraceful to the Pilgrim Fathers, and like them would inflict capital punishment on the victims of their suspicion. Just after we came here, there was a squaw living in the eastern part of the county, whom the Indians decided had lived to such an extreme old age as to have outlived all usefulness, and must therefore be a witch. So they appointed two of their braves to execute the death sentence previously passed upon her for the crime of witchcraft. They took her into the woods, and each taking hold of an arm raised it up and thrust his knife into her side, which soon terminated her life. They very indifferently buried her, and the hogs were afterward seen feasting upon the remains. * * * * * * * * *

"The Indians were generally peaceable, but sometimes there would be a difficulty between them and the white settlers, usually as to the ownership of stock. Their hogs ran wild in the woods, and occasionally a reckless white man would kill some of them, and then the innocent would be blamed. My father had a yearling heifer stray away to town, and when he went after it the Indians had caught and fastened it with a cord, and refused to surrender the animal. My father, somewhat incensed, commenced untying the cord, when Bigpan came up and took hold of his hand, saying, 'No! no! no!' but father persisted, and untied it, and let the calf free. The Indian said, 'Now you steal my cow, and maybe you steal hog.'

"There were a few drunken Indians came into my father's cabin one day. My sister was sitting in a chair in front of the fire, when one of them came up behind her and flourished his big knife over her head, making murderous demonstrations; but the squaws quickly came forward and took the knife away from him. They also took the weapons from the other Indians and carried them to a safe distance, and the band soon departed without further trouble. But the Indians were a fruitful source of wealth to traders and dealers in furs and deer skins. * * * * *

"I have seen some of the Indians with their ears cut from the ear-lap about half-way around, close to the rim, but not cut loose at either end. The flesh would heal and hang in a cord, on which they would place their rings. They would wear moccasins on their feet, made of well-dressed deer skin, handsomely ornamented with colored beads cut from porcupine quills, and beautifully arranged around the ankle and over the top of the moccasin. Some would wear a silver tube, three or four inches long and about one inch in diameter, on top of the head, which was held in place by drawing the hair firmly through it. The warriors occasionally would paint their cheeks red, put a red stripe over each eye-brow, one down the bridge of the nose and one on the chin. The whites thought these marks significant of war, and that the Indians thus marked were the allies of some warring tribe of the West. Some of the whites were fearful they would be victims, but they were never molested, except in a few personal encounters, one of which took place on the premises of John P. Hamilton, Esq. Asa Lake had called to stay over night, and the Indian, Armstrong, who had been drinking too much whisky, also came there for the same purpose. They went to the stable to feed their horses, and when Mr. Hamilton went up in the mow to throw down hay, Lake thought he would have some sport with the Indian, and taunted him about decorating his face, until the redskin got mad, drew his knife, and thrust it at Lake's breast with all his might, but missed his aim, the knife passing under Lake's arm and cutting a long slit in his coat. Lake sprang for a club, knocked the Indian down, and perhaps would have killed him had not Mr. Hamilton interfered and pacified Lake, by reminding him that he had provoked the trouble and should not blame the drunken Indian. Mr. Hamilton took the Indian into the house and kept him all night, which kind act made Armstrong his friend ever afterward. * * *

"But the Indians, like the wild animals, were 'under cow' to the white man, as the following instance will fully illustrate: Mr. Hamilton set a trap to catch wolves, and one morning on going to where his trap had been set, found that it had disappeared. He concluded it had been stolen, and accused Half John with taking it, but the Indian declared positively that he was innocent. Mr. Hamilton, however, was so sure he was the thief

that he told the Indian he would shoot him unless he returned the trap. Half John, thoroughly frightened, hunted all day for the missing trap, and in the evening came to Hamilton and requested the latter to go with him, that he had found the trap. Hamilton went, and was considerably chagrined to find his trap on the leg of a big hog."

Prior to the departure of the Wyandots for the far West, in July, 1843, the pioneers of Hancock County were greatly annoyed by the numerous bands of Indian hunters, who roamed the forest in search of game. Many of these Indians regarded the produce of the whites as a part of their legitimate spoils, and would bring venison and other game to the isolated cabins to exchange for other commodities, and always managed to get what they were most in need of. The struggling settler very often had to share his scanty meal with any Indian who called at his cabin, and they were always ready to eat. The Indians were, as a rule, gourmands, and we can easily imagine the feelings of the needy family upon whom one or more of these lazy fellows would call for food. It is true they sometimes repaid such hospitality, nevertheless their frequent coming was often a heavy drain upon the meager resources of the pioneers, who were not sorry when they finally left the country. It was a part of the inevitable that the red man should depart and the white man take his place, and no thoughtful, civilized person would prefer a land covered with forests and ranged by semi-savages, to a great State embellished with all the improvements that art can devise or industry execute.

CHAPTER II.

THE PIONEERS OF HANCOCK COUNTY—THEIR SACRIFICES AND HEROIC PERSEVERANCE—BLANCHARD, THE FRENCH EXILE—ERECTION AND OCCUPATION OF FORT FINDLAY—THORP, THE SUTLER—FIRST PERMANENT WHITE SETTLERS—BIRTH OF THE FIRST WHITE CHILD IN HANCOCK COUNTY—PIONEERS OF THE COUNTY PRIOR TO 1830—IMMIGRATION TO NORTHWESTERN OHIO AND ITS ACCOMPANYING HARDSHIPS—BEGINNING WORK IN THE UNBROKEN FOREST—THE PIONEER CABIN AND ITS FURNITURE—TABLE WARE, FOOD AND MEDICINE OF THE PIONEERS—HABITS, LABOR AND DRESS—EARLY MANNERS AND CUSTOMS—SOCIAL GATHERINGS—FIRST MARRIAGE IN THE COUNTY—THE GRATER AND HOMINY BLOCK—PIONEER MILLS OF HANCOCK COUNTY—DIFFICULTIES OF GOING TO MILL—PRICES OF STORE GOODS, PRODUCE AND FURS DURING EARLY DAYS—MODE OF LIVING—THE PIONEER CHURCH AND SCHOOL—RAPID GROWTH AND MATERIAL PROGRESS OF THE COUNTY AFTER ITS ORGANIZATION—THE HANCOCK COUNTY PIONEER AND HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION.

"What heroism, what perils, then!
How true of heart and strong of hand,
How earnest, resolute, those pioneer men!"

IN every country there is but one generation of pioneers. The history of that generation possesses a value and an interest which belong to no subsequent period. Leaving behind them the comforts and influences of a civilized community, the pioneers came to a new country, densely forested, and applied their sturdy and earnest energies to the destruction of the

towering timber, and the rearing upon its ruins of a new civilization, similar to that from which they migrated. The struggles and dangers they must undergo, the habits and customs which their new environment engendered, the gradual approach of their institutions from the inadequacy at their inception to the present stage of efficiency, and the self-denying mode of life they were obliged to adopt, present a phase of life that has now departed from this State forever.

Less than one hundred years ago there was not a single white settlement throughout the length and breadth of Ohio, and seventy-five years ago not a single white family living in Hancock County. Could those who have seen this county only as it now is, borrow the eyes of the sturdy pioneers who helped to make the transformation, in place of the now smiling fields and comfortable homes, naught but a vast wilderness, filled with savage beasts, would greet their sight. The present generation can form no just conception of the trials, endless labors, sacrifices and privations to which the first settlers heroically submitted. They were not seeking fortunes nor fame; they were intent only on making a home for their children, and from that laudable impelling motive has arisen the splendid structure of Western civilization we see all around us.

"These Western pioneers an impulse felt,
Which their less hardy sons scarce understand."

Their industry, enterprise and perseverance wrought from out nature's wilds the great prosperity which in the sunlight of to-day, from every hillside and glen, looks up to smile upon us. The pioneers of Hancock County, with few exceptions, have passed to their final account, and it remains for their descendants to keep bright the recollections of such names and events as have come down to them, for the memory of their deeds deserves to be "written in characters of living light upon the firmament, there to endure as radiant as if every letter was traced in shining stars."

Prior to the coming of the real pioneers, a few wandering whites had found their way into the territory drained by the Blanchard River. On the authority of Col. John Johnston, long the government agent of the Shawnee Indians, Howe, in his "Historical Collections," speaking of Blanchard, after whom the stream was named, says: "He was a native of France and a man of intelligence, but no part of his history could be obtained from him. He doubtless fled his country for some offense against its laws, intermarried with a Shawnee woman, and after living here thirty years died in 1802, at or near the site of Fort Findlay. When the Shawnees immigrated to the West seven of his children were living, one of whom was a chief." There is no doubt that this portion of the State was traversed by French traders many years before and after the planting of the first permanent American settlement northwest of the Ohio. Many of these men married squaws and lived with the Indians as one of themselves. It is therefore probable that Blanchard, who, it is said, was a tailor, may have dwelt at intervals and worked at his trade in the several Indian villages located on the stream which bears his name; and as there was a village on the site of Mount Blanchard, another on the site of Findlay, and a third farther down the river in Liberty Township, one of these was doubtless the place to which Col. Johnston had reference.

The following account of Blanchard, prepared and read before the



W. H. Baldwin



"Hancock County Pioneer and Historical Association," by W. H. Whiteley, of Findlay, in 1877, is worthy of a place in this chapter:

"There is, perhaps, no character that presents itself in the whole history of the Northwest, about whom there clings so much of interest and mystery as that of Jean Jacques Blanchard. The personal history of this strange man is vague and indefinite, but in the occasional glimpses which we get of it through the long lapse of years, we see a life of adventurous wanderings and vicissitudes—a life that seems to have forgotten the dreams of its childhood, and thrown aside and abandoned as worthless the purer instincts of nature, and in their stead embraced a wild and semi-savage existence. A man of education, culture and refinement, he left the home of his birth, and all that the human heart holds near and dear, and plunging into the wilderness he dwelt with a strange people, who spoke a strange language, and who worshiped a strange God. From the best information that can be obtained it appears that Blanchard was born in France, about the year 1720. The immediate place of his birth, or who or what his parents were, is, and probaby will be forever, unknown. That he had received a liberal education there can be no reasonable doubt; he was well versed in mathematics, and from an account of him given by an officer of the American army, who met him in 1799 near the present site of the town of McArthur, Ohio, the supposition is that he at one time possessed an intimate acquaintance with the Latin and Greek languages. He spoke his native language fluently and with that peculiar accent known as the 'Paris dialect.' The theory long held in reference to Blanchard is that he was a Frenchman, who, either to escape the penalty of some crime, or for the love of adventure, had taken up his residence among the Indians. In the meager account of himself which Blanchard gave to Capt. Forth, the officer before referred to, he says that he emigrated from France to Louisiana in the year 1760. Here he remained until a few months after the cession of that territory to Spain, in the year 1762. What his employments were during the two years he remained in Louisiana has never been ascertained. For the next seven years nothing whatever is known of him. The presumption in the mind of the historian, Elliot, was that Blanchard had joined a band of Spanish freebooters, and with them engaged in plundering small vessels in the West India waters.*

"In the autumn of 1769, or the spring of 1770, Blanchard made his appearance among a band of Shawnee Indians, who resided about twenty-two miles south of the place where Dayton now stands. How or from whence he came no one knew, nor did he ever explain it. It is supposed that, becoming tired of being a pirate, he had returned to Louisiana and joined a party of traders, and after visiting several Indian tribes became weary of his mercenary companions and plunged into the wilderness alone, and coming to the village of the Shawnees he determined to take up his abode with them. He was kindly received by the tribe, and it was not long until he was regarded as one of their number. When he came into the Shawnee tribe he had with him an elaborate case of curiously wrought tools. These he used in making ornaments for the Indians from the small coins and shells which they furnished him for that purpose. So skilled was he in manufacturing ornaments, with which the savages were wont to adorn themselves, that his fame spread abroad among other tribes, and they came

*Elliot's Algonquins.

from far and near to bring him material, out of which he formed wonderful devices that delighted the hearts of the Indian braves. The natural conclusion to be drawn from this circumstance is that he was at some period of his life a skilled artisan. Another account of Blanchard, given in one of the earlier histories of Ohio, states that he was a tailor, 'or one who sewed garments,' and from this fact the Shawnees gave to the river, now called after the old Frenchman, the name of Sha-po-qua-te-sepe, or Tailor's River.

"In 1774 Blanchard married a Shawnee woman, by whom he had seven children—five sons and two daughters. At the time the tribe went West the second son was a sub-chief.* In 1857 there were several Indians in the tribe who claimed to be descendants of Blanchard. The stream now known as Blanchard's Fork of the Auglaize River, was named in his honor. Previous to 1812 the stream was simply known as Blanchard's River, but on the completion of certain government surveys the name of the river was changed to Blanchard's Fork of the Auglaize. About the year 1786 a part of the tribe with which Blanchard lived moved to a point near the head of the river. Here it was that they were visited by traders, and so skilled was the band in obtaining furs that the village soon became the resort of the agents of the Canadian Fur Company. It was they who gave the name to the river. There is no evidence that Blanchard ever resided permanently in Hancock County, and the only visits he ever made within its present boundaries were to the villages along the river. There was nothing striking in the personal appearance of the man. He was a little below the medium height, and his features were regular and expressive of some strength of character. He was quiet in his demeanor, and at times morose. He seldom talked of his early life, in fact he never spoke of it unless pressed to do so, or when he heard Indians or whites boasting of things they had heard or seen. Blanchard died about the year 1802. The place of his death is unknown, though it is said to be at or near the site of Findlay."

Fort Findlay was built in the summer of 1812, on the south bank of the Blanchard, immediately west of Main Street, Findlay, by a detachment of Gen. Hull's army under the command of Col. James Findlay, of Cincinnati. A small force was kept on duty at this fort until the spring of 1815, when the presence of soldiers being no longer necessary in this portion of the State, it was evacuated.

Soon after the completion of Fort Findlay a man named Thorp came here from Dayton, Ohio, and with the assistance of the garrison erected a story and a half hewed-log house immediately east of the fort. He acted as baker and sutler for the garrison, and upon the close of the war removed to the Maumee. "In the spring of 1814," says Squire Carlin, "I accompanied my father from Urbana to the Maumee. We stayed over night at Fort Findlay, and I well remember that a man named Thorp kept a small bakery and sutler shop in a hewed-log house which stood a little east of the fort. During the evening I visited Thorp's store, where he was living alone and selling goods to the soldiers. In the spring of 1815 we again passed Fort Findlay, but found both the fort and Thorp's house deserted. Thorp had removed to the Maumee, where I afterward knew him. He settled on an island in the bay about six miles northeast of Toledo, and I think he died there. Thorp was a man of considerable culture, but very eccentric, and seemed to avoid the associations of his fellowmen as much as possible."

*Narrative of Col. John Johnston.

Benjamin J. Cox was the first permanent white settler of Hancock County. In 1815 he left Logan County, Ohio, and traveling northward on the military road cut out by Gen. Hull three years before, located with his family in the hewed-log house erected by Thorp on the site of Findlay. One year afterward a daughter, Lydia, was born in this cabin, which stood on the south bank of the Blanchard, where the two-story brick erected by Wilson Vance now stands, and to her belongs whatever honor is attached to being the first white child born in the territory embraced in Hancock County. The Cox family were for about six years the only white inhabitants of this portion of the State. They cultivated a small patch of ground near their cabin, and also kept a sort of frontier tavern for the accommodation of traders, drovers and land prospectors who sometimes visited this region. But early in the spring of 1821 Robert Shirley, William Moreland and a Mr. Beaver, of Ross County, Ohio, who the previous fall had visited the country along the Blanchard, sent out their sons, in all a party of six men, with three teams, to make a settlement in the vicinity of Fort Findlay. On arriving they began the work of underbrushing, and soon had planted small crops of corn and potatoes above Fort Findlay. Three of the party then went back to Ross County, leaving the others to gather the crops and fatten and butcher some hogs they had brought out with them. When this was accomplished they left all in care of Mr. Cox and returned to their homes. Of these families, only one, that of Mr. Moreland, settled permanently; the latter, with his sons William and Jacob, locating on the Blanchard near the old fort, Jacob erecting his cabin in the spring of 1821 on the farm now owned by Aaron Baker, and his father on the site of North Findlay, in the fall of the same year.

Wilson Vance was the next settler, coming in November, 1821, and taking possession of the house previously occupied by Mr. Cox. The latter removed to an old Indian cabin which stood a little southeast of his former residence. John Simpson and son, John, located on "Chamberlin's Hill" the same autumn. Other settlers soon came, and prior to 1830 the following pioneers, most of whom had families, located in what is now Findlay Township: Job Chamberlin, John P. and Bleuford Hamilton, Matthew Reighly, Thomas and Joseph Slight and John Gardner, Sr., in 1822; Joshua Hedges, in 1824; David Gitchel, in 1825; Squire Carlin and Joseph White, in 1826; Joseph DeWitt, Thomas Simpson, George W. Simpson, Reuben Hale, John Boyd, John C. Wickham, Minor T. Wickham, Isaac Johnson, Joseph Johnson, John Jones, Thomas Chester, John Taylor and Edwin S. Jones all came in 1827; Parlee Carlin, William Taylor, Joshua Powell, James Peltier, James B. Moore, David Foster and Jacob Foster in 1828; and William L. Henderson, Robert L. Strother, Thomas F. Johnston, Henry and Peter Shaw, John Bashore and John George Flenner, in 1829.

There were, perhaps, a few others who came in during this period, but if so their names are "lost 'mid the rubbish of forgotten things." Some of those given as pioneers of Findlay Township afterward removed into other parts of the county.

Delaware was the second township to receive the impress of civilization, Asa Lake and son, Asa M., locating near the site of Mount Blanchard late in the fall of 1821, or early the following year, as the family were living there in February, 1822, when Job Chamberlin, Sr., settled on the hill south of Findlay. Michael Burke was the second settler of Delaware, coming in

1823, followed in 1824 by Daniel Hamlin, whose son, Don Alonzo, was the first sheriff of Hancock County. In 1825 the families of William J. Greer, Sr., Reuben W. Hamlin, Godfrey Wolford and Robert Elder joined the Blanchard settlement. Two of Mr. Elder's sons—Ephraim and John—were married before coming to the county, and other members of the Greer and Elder families had reached manhood and womanhood. The families of John Wolford, John Rose, Nathan Williams, Warren and Van R. Hancock and Harvey Smith came in 1828, and those of Michael Casner, Chauncy Fuller, William Davis and Ayers Stradley in 1829. None others are believed to have settled in that subdivision prior to 1830.

In the spring of 1822 Robert McKinnis and sons, Charles, Philip, James and John, all well remembered pioneers, settled on the Blanchard about six miles northwest of Findlay, in what is now Liberty Township. His son-in-law, Jacob Poe, came the following December, and John Gardner and Joseph White in 1823. Thomas and Ebenezer Wilson, John Gardner, Jr., and Robert McCullough settled in Liberty in 1826; William Wade, Joshua Jones and John Travis in 1827; John Fishel and sons, John, Michael and Daniel, Jeremiah Pressor and Addison Hampton in 1828, and Alfred Hampton and Johnson Bonham in 1829.

Blanchard Township comes next in the order of settlement, John Hunter and Benjamin Chandler building their cabins south of the river, on Section 15, in the spring of 1823. George Shaw, Lewis Dukes, Sr., and William Powell came into the township in 1827, followed in 1828 by Richard and John Dukes, Thomas Groves and Jeremiah Colclo and son, William; and in 1829 by George Epley and Joseph Bowen.

Amanda and Big Lick each received its first settler in 1823, Thomas Thompson locating on Section 3 of the former sub-division, and Henry McWhorter on Section 34 of the latter township, some time that year. Abraham Huff came into Amanda in 1825; John Huff, John Shoemaker, William Hackney, James Beard, John J. Hendricks and Thomas Huff in 1826; Henry George and several sons, John Beard and six sons, and Jesse and John Hewitt in 1827; and in 1828 and 1829, Aquilla Gilbert, Thomas Cole, David Hagerman, Joseph Whiteman, Andrew Robb, William Ebright, Henry Keel, Samuel Gordon, David Egbert, Justin Smith and James Gibson, all settled in the township. Samuel Sargent was the second settler of Big Lick, locating on Limestone Ridge in 1827, though John Long and son, Robert, came in from Amanda the same year, having settled in the latter subdivision in 1826. Levi Poulson came into the township in 1828; John Huff moved in from Amanda in 1828, and John Shoemaker in 1829. Thus some of the first settlers of Amanda Township were also pioneers of Big Lick.

The lands lying on Eagle Creek, in Madison Township, were among the earliest settled in the county. Here Simeon Ransbottom built his cabin in 1825, Abel Tanner in the spring of 1826, and Abner Hill and John Tullis in 1826–27. In 1828 Thomas Ransbottom and John Diller settled on the same stream, and the following year Aaron Kinion, Nathaniel Hill and James West joined the settlement.

East of Findlay, in Marion Township, we find settlements made by Joseph A. Sargent and Asher Wickham in 1827, Othniel Wells in 1828, and Joshua Powell and Willis Ward in 1829.

Mordecai Hammond, who settled on the Blanchard, in the southeast

corner of Jackson Township, in the fall of 1827, was the only settler of the territory now constituting that subdivision prior to 1830. Several others located on the Blanchard, north of Mr. Hammond, before 1830, but the lands on which they built their cabins, although formerly in Jackson, have been attached to Amanda Township.

The territory embraced in Allen Township received four families prior to 1830, viz.: Nathan Frakes in 1827, Isaac Miller in 1828, and Elias L. Bryan and John Trout in 1829.

Eagle is the only remaining township in which a settlement was made before 1830, John Woodruff and sons, Adam, Elijah and William Y., locating on Eagle Creek in the summer of 1829.

All of the foregoing pioneers, as well as those who came into the county for several years afterward, receive generous mention in the chapters specially devoted to the respective townships in which they settled, and it is therefore unnecessary to repeat what is here related. Most of the early settlers came with all their worldly possessions packed in a two or four-horse wagon, in which only the very aged or very young were allowed to ride; the others trudged uncomplainingly behind or went in advance to clear the path. Some came with ox teams, some on horse-back, while others performed the journey afoot. Streams had to be forded frequently, roads had often to be cut through the forest as the newer settled country was reached, and occasionally a team would give out or the wagon mire in one of the many intervening marshes or "swales" which then abounded in Northwestern Ohio. Many days, and oftentimes a month or more, were consumed in completing the tedious journey, and it was with deep sighs of relief or exclamations of joy that the weary settlers at last reached their destination, though their labors had then only begun.

The first settlers of Hancock County came not to enjoy a life of lotus-eating and ease. They could, doubtless, admire the pristine beauty of the scenes that unveiled before them, the vernal green of the forest, and the loveliness of all the works of nature; they could look forward with happy anticipation to the lives they were to lead in the midst of all this beauty, and to the rich reward that would be theirs from the cultivation of the mellow, fertile soil; but they had first to work. The dangers they were exposed to were serious ones. The Indians could not be fully trusted, and the many stories of their depredations in the earlier Eastern settlements made the pioneers of Ohio apprehensive of trouble. The larger wild beasts were a cause of much dread, and the smaller ones a source of great annoyance. Added to this was the liability to sickness which always exists in a new country. In the midst of the loveliness of the surroundings, there was a sense of loneliness that could not be dispelled, and this was a far greater trial to the men and women who first dwelt in the Western country than is generally imagined. The deep-seated, constantly recurring feeling of isolation made many stout hearts turn back to the older settlements and the abodes of comfort, the companionship and sociability they had abandoned in their early homes to take up a new life in the wilderness.

The pioneers, making the tedious journey from the East and South by the rude trails, arrived at their places of destination with but very little with which to begin the battle of life. They had brave hearts and strong arms, however, and they were possessed of invincible determination. Frequently they came on without their families to make a beginning, and this

having been accomplished, would return to their old homes for their wives and children. The first thing done, after a temporary shelter from the rain had been provided, was to prepare a little spot of ground for some crop, usually corn. This was done by girdling the trees, clearing away the underbrush, if there chanced to be any, and sweeping the surface with fire. Five, ten, or even fifteen acres of land might thus be prepared and planted the first season. In the autumn the crop would be carefully gathered and garnered with the least possible waste, for it was the food supply of the pioneer and his family, and life itself depended, in part, upon its safe preservation. While the first crop was growing the pioneer had busied himself with the building of his cabin, which must answer as a shelter from the storms of the coming winter and a protection from the ravages of wild animals.

If a pioneer was completely isolated from his fellow-men, his position was certainly a hard one; for without assistance he could construct only a poor habitation. In such cases the cabin was generally made of light logs or poles, and was laid up roughly, only to answer the temporary purpose of shelter, until other settlers had come into the vicinity, by whose help a more solid structure could be built. Usually a number of men came into the country together, and located within such distance of each other as enabled them to perform many friendly and neighborly offices. Assistance was always readily given each pioneer by all the scattered residents of the forest within a radius of several miles. The commonly followed plan of erecting a log-cabin was through a union of labor. The site of the cabin home was generally selected with reference to a good water supply, often by a never-failing spring of pure water, or, if such could not be found, it was not uncommon to first dig a well. When the cabin was to be built the few neighbors gathered at the site, and first cut down, within as close proximity as possible, a number of trees as nearly of a size as could be found, but ranging from a foot to twenty inches in diameter. Logs were chopped from these and rolled to a common center. This work, and that of preparing the foundation, would consume the greater part of the day, in most cases, and the entire labor would most commonly occupy two or three days—sometimes four. The logs were raised to their places with handspikes and "skid poles," and men standing at the corners with axes notched them as fast as they were laid in position. Soon the cabin would be built several logs high, and the work would become more difficult. The gables were formed by beveling the logs, and making them shorter and shorter, as each additional one was laid in place. These logs in the gables were held in place by poles, which extended across the cabin from end to end, and which served also as rafters upon which to lay the rived "clapboard" roof. The so-called "clapboards" were five or six feet in length, and were split from oak or ash logs, and made as smooth and flat as possible. They were laid side by side, and other pieces of split stuff laid over the cracks so as to effectually keep out the rain. Upon these logs were laid to hold them in place, and the logs were held by blocks of wood placed between them.

The chimney was an important part of the structure, and taxed the builders, with their poor tools, to their utmost. In rare cases it was made of stone, but most commonly of logs and sticks laid up in a manner similar to those which formed the cabin. It was, in nearly all cases, built outside of the cabin, and at its base a huge opening was cut through the wall to

answer as a fire-place. The sticks in the chimney were kept in place and protected from fire by mortar, formed by kneading and working clay and straw. Flat stones were procured for back and jambs of the fire-place.

An opening was chopped or sawed in the logs on one side of the cabin for a doorway. Pieces of hewed timber, three or four inches thick, were fastened on each side by wooden pins to the end of the logs, and the door (if there was any) was fastened to one of these by wooden hinges. The door itself was a clumsy piece of wood-work. It was made of boards rived from an oak log, and held together by heavy cross-pieces. There was a wooden latch upon the inside, raised by a string which passed through a gimlet-hole, and hung upon the outside. From this mode of construction arose the old and well-known hospitable saying: "You will find the latch-string always out." It was pulled in only at night, and the door was thus fastened. Very many of the cabins of the pioneers had no doors of the kind here described, and the entrance was protected only by a blanket or skin of some wild beast suspended above it.

The window was a small opening, often devoid of anything resembling a sash, and very seldom having glass. Greased paper was sometimes used in lieu of the latter, but more commonly some old garment constituted a curtain, which was the only protection from sun, rain or snow.

The floor of the cabin was made of puncheons—pieces of timber split from trees about eighteen inches in diameter, and hewed smooth with the broad-ax. They were half the length of the floor. Many of the cabins first erected in this part of the country had nothing but the earthen floor. Sometimes the cabins had cellars, which were simply small excavations in the ground for the storage of a few articles of food, or perhaps cooking utensils. Access to the cellar was readily gained by lifting a loose puncheon. There was sometimes a loft used for various purposes, among others as the "guest chamber" of the house. It was reached by a ladder, the sides of which were split pieces of a sapling, put together, like everything else in the house, without nails.

The furniture of the log-cabin was as simple and primitive as the structure itself. A forked stick set in the floor and supporting two poles, the other ends of which were allowed to rest upon the logs at the end and side of the cabin, formed a bedstead. A common form of table was a split slab supported by four rustic legs set in auger holes. Three-legged stools were made in a similar simple manner. Pegs driven in auger holes into the logs of the wall supported shelves, and others displayed the limited wardrobe of the family not in use. A few other pegs, or perhaps a pair of deer horns, formed a rack where hung the rifle and powder horn, which no cabin was without. These, and perhaps a few other simple articles brought from the "old home" formed the furniture and furnishings of the pioneer cabin.

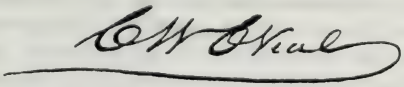
The utensils for cooking and the dishes for table use were few. The best were of pewter, which the careful housewife of the olden time kept shining as brightly as the most pretentious plate of our later-day fine houses. It was by no means uncommon that wooden vessels, either coopered or turned, were used upon the table. Knives and forks were few, crockery very scarce, and tinware not abundant. Food was simply cooked and served, but it was of the best and most wholesome kind. The hunter kept the larder supplied with venison, bear meat, squirrels, fish, wild turkeys, and the many varieties of smaller game. Plain corn bread baked in

a kettle, in the ashes, or upon a board in front of the great open fireplace, answered the purpose of all kinds of pastry. The corn was, among the earlier pioneers, pounded or grated, there being no mills for grinding it for some time, and then only small ones at a considerable distance away. The wild fruits in their season were made use of, and afforded a pleasant variety. Sometimes especial effort was made to prepare a delicacy, as, for instance, when a woman experimented in mince pies by pounding wheat for the flour to make the crust, and used crab-apples for fruit. In the lofts of the cabins was usually to be found a collection of articles that made up the pioneer's *materia medica*—the herb medicines and spices, catnip, sage, tansy, fennel, boneset, pennyroyal and wormwood, each gathered in its season; and there were also stores of nuts, and strings of dried pumpkin, with bags of berries and fruit.

The habits of the pioneers were of a simplicity and purity in conformance to their surroundings and belongings. The men were engaged in the herculean labor, day after day, of enlarging the little patch of sunshine about their homes, cutting away the forest, burning off the brush and *debris*, preparing the soil, planting, tending, harvesting, caring for the few animals which they brought with them or soon procured, and in hunting. While they were engaged in the heavy labor of the field and forest, following the deer or seeking other game, their helpmeets were busied with their household duties, providing for the day and for the winter coming on, cooking, making clothes, spinning and weaving. They were fitted by nature and experience to be the consorts of the brave men who first came into the Western wilderness. They were heroic in their endurance of hardship and privation and loneliness. Their industry was well directed and unceasing. Woman's work then, like man's, was performed under disadvantages which have been removed in later years. She had not only the common household duties to perform, but many others. She not only made the clothing, but the fabric for it. That old, old occupation of spinning and of weaving, with which woman's name has been associated in all history, and of which the modern world knows nothing, except through the stories of those who are grandmothers now—that old occupation of spinning and of weaving, which seems surrounded with a glamour of romance as we look back to it through tradition and poetry, and which always conjures up thoughts of the graces and virtues of the dames and damsels of a generation that is gone—that old, old occupation of spinning and of weaving, was the chief industry of the pioneer woman. Every cabin sounded with the softly whirring wheel and the rythmic thud of the loom. The woman of pioneer times was like the woman described by Solomon: "She seeketh wool and flax, and worketh willingly with her hands; she layeth her hands to the spindle, and her hands hold the distaff."

Almost every article of clothing, all of the cloth in use in the old log-cabins, was the product of the patient woman-weaver's toil. She spun the flax and wove the cloth for shirts, pantaloons, frocks, sheets and blankets. The linen and wool, the "linsey-woolsey" woven by the housewife, formed all of the material for the clothing of both men and women, except such articles as were made of skins. The men commonly wore the hunting-shirt, a kind of loose frock reaching half way down the figure, open before, and so wide as to lap over a foot or more upon the chest. This generally had a cape, which was often fringed with a raveled piece of cloth of a dif-







ferent color from that which composed the garment. The bosom of the hunting-shirt answered as a pouch, in which could be carried the various articles that the hunter or woodsman would need. It was always worn belted and made out of coarse linen or linsey, or of dressed deer skin, according to the fancy of the wearer. Breeches were made of heavy cloth or of deer-skin, and were often worn with leggings of the same material, or of some kind of leather, while the feet were most usually encased in moccasins, which were easily and quickly made, though they needed frequent mending. The deer-skin breeches or drawers were very comfortable when dry, but when they became wet were very cold to the limbs, and the next time they were put on were almost as stiff as if made of wood. Hats or caps were made of the various native furs. The women were clothed in linsey petticoats, coarse shoes and stockings, and wore buckskin gloves or mittens when any protection was required for the hands. All of the wearing apparel, like that of the men, was made with a view to being serviceable and comfortable, and all was of home manufacture. Other articles and finer ones were sometimes worn, but they had been brought from former homes, and were usually relics handed down from parents to children. Jewelry was not common, but occasionally some ornament was displayed. In the cabins of the more cultivated pioneers were usually a few books, and the long winter evenings were spent in poring over these well-thumbed volumes by the light of the great log-fire, in knitting, mending, curing furs, or some similar occupation.

Hospitality was simple, unaffected, hearty, unbounded. Whisky was in common use, and was furnished on all occasions of sociality. Nearly every settler had his jug stored away. It was the universal drink at merry-makings, bees, house-warmings, weddings, and was always set before the traveler who chanced to spend the night or take a meal in the log-cabin. It was the good old-fashioned whisky, "clear as amber, sweet as musk, smooth as oil," that the few octogenarians and nonagenarians of to-day recall to memory with an unctuous gusto and a suggestive smack of the lips. The whisky came from the older settlement, and was boated up the streams or hauled in wagons across the country. A few years later stills began to make their appearance in adjoining counties, and an article of peach brandy and rye whisky manufactured; the latter was not held in such high esteem as the peach brandy, though used in greater quantities.

As the settlement increased, the sense of loneliness and isolation was dispelled, the asperities of life were softened and its amenities multiplied; social gatherings became more numerous and more enjoyable. The log-rollings, harvestings and husking bees for the men, and the apple-butter making and the quilting parties for the women, furnished frequent occasions for social intercourse. The early settlers took much pleasure and pride in rifle shooting, and as they were accustomed to the use of the gun, frequently as a means of obtaining a subsistence, and relied upon it as a weapon of defense, they exhibited considerable skill.

A wedding was the event of most importance in the sparsely settled new country. The young people had every inducement to marry, and generally did so as soon as able to provide for themselves. When a marriage was to be celebrated all the neighborhood turned out. It was customary to have the ceremony performed before dinner, and in order to be in time the groom and his attendants usually started from his father's house in the morning, for

that of the bride. All went on horseback, riding in single file along the narrow trail. Arriving at the cabin of the bride's parents the ceremony would be performed, and after that, dinner served. This would be a substantial backwoods feast of beef, pork, fowls, and bear or deer meat, with such vegetables as could be procured. The greatest hilarity prevailed during the meal. After it was over the dancing began, and was usually kept up till the next morning, though the newly made husband and wife were as a general thing put to bed in the most approved fashion, and with considerable formality, in the middle of the evening's hilarity. The tall young men, when they went upon the floor to dance, had to take their places with care between the logs that supported the loft floor, or they were in danger of bumping their heads. The figures of the dances were three and four hand reels, or square sets and jigs. The commencement was always a square four, which was followed by "jigging it off," or what is sometimes called a "cut-out jig." The "settlement" of a young couple was thought to be thoroughly and generously made when the neighbors assembled and raised a cabin for them.

The first marriage in Hancock County was contracted September 2, 1824, Samuel Kepler and Rachel McKinnis being the happy couple. Mr. Kepler settled on the Maumee in 1822, and ere his death in the fall of 1872, gave the following account of his marriage to Miss McKinnis, while on a visit to her father's home, in what is now Liberty Township: "I sent for my license by mail, to Robert Forsyth, clerk of the court of Wood County. Not knowing me he refused to grant it, so that my future father-in-law had to go to Perrysburg to procure it. We were married in Mr. McKinnis' house by Wilson Vance, Esq., being the first couple married in Hancock County. After making a canoe, which took five or six days, my wife packed her little outfit of household goods into it, and we literally 'paddled our own canoe' to where I now live."

During all the early years of the settlement, varied with occasional pleasures and excitements, the great work of increasing the tillable ground went slowly on. The implements and tools were few and of the most primitive kinds, but the soil that had long held in reserve the accumulated richness of centuries produced splendid harvests, and the husbandman was well rewarded for his labor. The soil was warmer then than now, and the season earlier. The wheat was occasionally pastured in the spring to keep it from growing up so fast as to become lodged. The harvest came early, and the yield was often from twenty to thirty bushels per acre. Corn grew fast, and roasting ears were to be had by the 1st of August in most seasons.

When the corn grew too hard for roasting ears, and was yet too soft to grind in the mill, it was reduced to meal by a grater. Next to the grater came the hominy block, an article in common use among the pioneers. It consisted simply of a block of wood—a section of a tree, perhaps—with a hole burned or dug into it a foot deep, in which corn was pulverized with a pestle. Sometimes this block was inside the cabin, where it served as a seat for the bashful young backwoodsman while "sparking" his girl; sometimes a convenient stump in front of the cabin door was prepared for and made one of the best of hominy blocks. These blocks did not last long, for mills came quite early and superseded them, yet these mills were so far apart that in stormy weather or for want of transportation the pioneer was often compelled to resort to his hominy block or go without bread.

Grist-mills soon made their appearance in every settlement, but they were usually very primitive affairs—mere "corn-crackers"—yet they were a big improvement on the hominy-block. They ground the corn, and the pioneer had to do his own bolting. The meal was sifted through a wire sieve by hand, and the finest used for bread. Some of these mills were run by horse-power, and, therefore, commonly called "horse-mills." In 1832 Henry Shaw built one of those horse-mills in Findlay, which was a great convenience to the early settlers. Water-mills were erected upon the Blanchard and other streams at quite an early day. In 1824 a small log grist-mill was built by Joseph Vance and Elnathan Cory on the north bank of the river, opposite Fort Findlay, where Carlin's mill now stands. Godfrey Wolford built a grist-mill on the Blanchard, in Section 11, Delaware Township, in 1829–30. Some two or three years afterward Felix Miller put up a mill in Section 23, in the same township, the Blanchard also furnishing the motive power. John D. Bishop erected the fourth water-mill, in 1833, on Eagle Creek, in Section 24, Eagle Township; and in 1834, another was built by John Byall, on the south bank of the Blanchard in Section 10, Liberty Township, which has been in operation ever since. Michael Misamore built the next mill, in 1835, on the Blanchard, in Section 13, Amanda Township. William Marvin erected a water-mill on the Blanchard in Section 22, Marion Township, in 1835–36, and subsequently a steam mill farther up the river in the same township. A small grist-mill was put up on Portage Creek, in Section 17, Allen Township, about the same time by John Burman. In 1838 Martin Funk built a grist-mill on Eagle Creek, in Section 11, Madison Township; and two years afterward a steam-mill was erected in Section 2, Cass Township, by James Anderson. In 1844 the Eagle Mills in East Findlay were built by Martin Huber, John Engleman and John Julien. They were then and have since continued to be the largest flouring-mills in the county, and having always had steam-power, they have undergone none of the difficulties that water-mills had to contend with. Edson Goit, of Findlay, put up a mill on Ottawa Creek, in Section 11, Union Township, in 1845, which was subsequently purchased by James Teatsorth, and widely known as the "Teatsorth Mill." Those mentioned may be called the pioneer mills of Hancock County, and were more or less patronized by the majority of the first settlers.

In winter the mills were sometimes frozen up, and the water was often so low in the summer season that they could not run. These mills were frequently thronged with pioneers, each with his sack of corn or wheat, some of whom were often compelled to camp out near the mill and wait several days for their turn. When the grist was ground they started for their cabin home happy. It was not unusual to go from ten to thirty miles to mill through the pathless, unbroken forest, and to be benighted on the journey and followed by wolves. Many of the first settlers went to Bellefontaine, North Liberty, Bucyrus, Tiffin, Fremont, and even as far as Urbana, Sandusky City and the Maumee to do their milling and exchange the produce of their farms for salt and other scarce necessaries, the round trip usually taking a week, and often a much longer time. A road cut through the forest to the mill and a wagon for hauling the grist, were great advantages. The latter especially was often a seven days' wonder to the children of a settlement, and the happy owner of one sometimes did the milling of a whole neighborhood. About once a month this useful neighbor, who was in exceptionally

good circumstances because able to own a wagon, would go around through the settlement, gather up the grists and take them to mill, often spending several days in the operation, and never thinking of charging for his time and trouble.

Only the commonest goods were brought into the country, and they sold at very high prices, as the freightage of merchandise from the East was high. Most of the people were in moderate circumstances, and were content to live in a very cheap way. A majority had to depend mainly on the produce of their little clearings, which consisted, to a large extent, of potatoes and corn. Mush, corn bread and potatoes were the principal food, and though wild meat and pork were plentiful, they often had to be eaten without salt, which, during the early years of settlement, was a very scarce commodity. From 1826 to 1830 tea retailed in Findlay at $3 a pound; coffee, 31 cents; chocolate, 25 cents; loaf sugar, 25 cents; plug-twist tobacco, 20 cents; homespun linen, 37½ cents per yard; calico, 37½ cents, and six yards was the usual dress pattern; a colored cotton handkerchief, 75 cents; shoes, $2.50; boots, $5, and moccasins 25 cents per pair. Wheat sold at 40 cents per bushel; corn, 20 cents; oats, 12½ cents; potatoes, 10 cents; flour, $1.50 per 100, and salt $4 per 100 pounds. Wild turkeys sold at 10 cents each, and dressed pork $2.25 per 100, while a ham of venison, weighing from fifteen to twenty pounds, could be purchased for 10 cents. To judge from the daily consumption of whisky, it was pre-eminently the "staff of life." It retailed at 25 cents a gallon, and was drank by most of the whites and all of the Indians who patronized the pioneer stores of Findlay. In 1828 live hogs brought $2 per 100, and cattle $1.75. A good horse could be purchased for $40, and a yoke of oxen sold at the same figure. The Indians usually paid their bills in peltry, and many of the whites did likewise. A bear skin brought from $2 to $5; otter, $3.50; deer, 40 to 75 cents; gray fox, 25 cents; red fox, $1; muskrat, 37½ cents; raccoon, 33⅓ cents; wild cat, 25 cents, and mink 25 cents. Wolf skins were not purchased by the dealers, but a bounty was paid by the commissioners for each wolf scalp produced at the auditor's office. Squire Carlin, William Taylor and Vance & Baldwin were the principal dealers in furs, though Mr. Carlin carried on the most extensive business in that line. He traveled all over the country buying from hunters and other dealers, purchasing in one winter 4,600 deer skins and 7,000 raccoon skins.

Long journeys upon foot were often made by the pioneers to obtain the necessaries of life, or some article, then a luxury, for the sick. Hardships were cheerfully borne, privations stoutly endured; the best was made of what they had by the pioneers and their families, and they toiled patiently on, industrious and frugal, simple in their tastes and pleasures, happy in an independence however hardly gained, and looking forward hopefully to a future of plenty which should reward them for the toils of these earliest years, and a rest from the struggle amidst the benefits gained by it. Without an iron will and indomitable resolution they could never have accomplished what they did. Their heroism deserves the highest tribute of praise that can be awarded.

All the cooking and warming in town as well as the country was done by the aid of a fire kindled on the brick hearth or in the brick ovens. Pine knots or tallow candles furnished the light for the long winter nights, and sanded floors supplied the place of rugs and carpets. The water used for

household purposes was drawn from wells by the creaking sweep. No form of pump was used in this county, so far as we can learn, for many years after the first settlements were made. There were no friction matches in those early days, by the aid of which a fire can be easily kindled, and if the fire went out upon the hearth overnight, and the tinder was damp, so that the spark would not catch, the alternative remained of wading through the snow a mile or so to borrow a brand from a neighbor. Only one room in any house was warm, unless some member of the family was ill; in all the rest the temperature was at zero during many nights in winter. The men and women undressed and went to their beds in a temperature colder than our barns and woodsheds, and they never complained.

Churches and schoolhouses were sparsely scattered, and of the most primitive character. One pastor served a number of congregations, and salaries were so low that the preachers had to take part in working their farms to procure support for their families. The people went to religious service on foot or horseback; and the children often walked two or three miles through the woods to school. There were no fires in the churches for a number of years. The seats in both church and school were of unsmoothed slabs, the ends and centers of which were laid upon blocks, and the pulpits were little better. Worship was held once or twice a month, consisting usually of two services, one in the forenoon and one immediately after noon, the people remaining during the interval and spending the time in social intercourse. It is much to be feared that if religious worship were attended with the same discomforts now as it was fifty to sixty years ago, the excuses for keeping away from the house of God would be many times multiplied. Taken altogether, while they had to endure many privations and hardships, it is doubtful whether the pioneers of any part of America were more fortunate in their selection than those of Hancock County. All of the settlers agree in saying that they had no trouble in accommodating themselves to the situation, and were, as a rule, both men and women, healthy, contented and happy.

The pioneers were necessarily exposed to many dangers and privations, yet, as a rule, they had no fears of starvation, for the forest was alive with game, the streams abounded in fish, and the virgin soil yielded bountifully. Upon the organization of the county in 1828, a new motive was given to immigration, and during the succeeding ten years the country rapidly filled up with settlers. Progress was slowly, surely made; the log houses became more numerous in the clearings; the forest shrank away before the woodsman's ax; frame houses began to appear. The pioneers, now assured of prosperity, laid better plans for the future, resorted to new industries, enlarged their possessions, and improved the means of cultivation. Stock was brought in from the South and East. Every settler had his horses, oxen, cattle, sheep and hogs. More commodious structures took the place of the old ones; the large double log-cabin of hewed logs, and the still handsomer frame dwelling, took the place of the smaller hut; log and frame barns were built for the protection of stock and the housing of the crops. Then society began to form itself; the schoolhouse and the church appeared in every settlement, and the advancement was noticeable in a score of ways. Still there remained a vast work to perform, for as yet only a beginning had been made in the Western woods. The brunt of the struggle, however, was past, and the way made in the wilderness for the army that was to come.

In 1874 the Hancock County Pioneer and Historical Association was

organized. The principal objects of the association were to gather and preserve the history of the county, and at the same time give the surviving early settlers an opportunity of renewing their acquaintance with each other, and to engage in such social intercourse as would recall and transmit to the care of the society the leading incidents, pleasures, hardships and sufferings of pioneer days. The first meeting for the purpose of organizing said association was held at the Court House June 20, 1874. A goodly number of the early settlers was present, and the meeting was organized by the election of Squire Carlin, a pioneer of 1826, as chairman, and Lewis Glessner, of the *Courier*, secretary. On taking the chair Mr. Carlin briefly stated the objects and need of such an association as contemplated, after which a committee consisting of M. S. Hamlin, Allen Wiseley, James Robinson, George Todd and George Treece were appointed to prepare a constitution and by-laws for the government of the society. When these preliminaries were disposed of, short speeches were made and incidents of pioneer life related by Squire Carlin, Richard Dukes, Allen Wiseley, Dr. William Wilson, Abraham Grable, George Treece, M. S. Hamlin, Benjamin Todd, Jonathan Parker, William Swindler, James L. Henry, James Robinson and D. B. Beardsley.

The next meeting was held at the Court House July 4, 1874, with Squire Carlin in the chair, and D. B. Beardsley, secretary. The committee appointed at the previous meeting reported the constitution and by-laws, which were read and adopted, and the following permanent officers elected: Squire Carlin, president; Peter George, James Robinson, Richard Dukes, Allen Wiseley, Jonathan Parker and James Hartman, vice-presidents; D. B. Beardsley, recording and corresponding secretary; Levi Taylor, treasurer; M. S. Hamlin, George Todd, Aaron Baker, Joseph Johnson, Henry Lamb, William Taylor, George Treece, Sanfred F. Dulin, Charles E. Jordan and Adam Cramer, executive committee. The association was now fairly started, and the following September held its first social gathering on the fair grounds, which was largely attended by the pioneers and their descendants. Under the constitution, as first adopted, any person who came to Hancock County on or before July 4, 1840, was admitted to membership by paying the sum of 50 cents, and a resolution was subsequently carried admitting ladies free. Sixty-nine members joined the association during the first year of its existence, and considerable enthusiasm was manifested in its success. This feeling, however, gradually died out, and many of the pioneers neglected to attend the meetings of the society or take any interest therein. The constitution was changed so as to admit any person who came to the county prior to July, 1845, but this had no apparent effect, and after three or four years' existence the association became extinct, and has never been revived.

CHAPTER III.

THE CLAIMS OF VIRGINIA, CONNECTICUT, MASSACHUSETTS AND NEW YORK TO THE NORTHWEST TERRITORY—PURCHASE OF THE LANDS FROM THE INDIAN TRIBES—INDIAN RESERVATIONS AND THEIR FINAL PURCHASE BY THE UNITED STATES—CIVIL GOVERNMENT ESTABLISHED BY THE ORDINANCE OF 1787—SUCCESSIVE ERECTIONS OF WAYNE, GREENE, CHAMPAIGN AND LOGAN COUNTIES—SURVEY OF NORTHWESTERN OHIO AND ITS DIVISION INTO COUNTIES—ORGANIZATION AND FIRST ELECTION IN WOOD COUNTY—WAYNESFIELD TOWNSHIP—ERECTION AND FIRST ELECTIONS IN FINDLAY TOWNSHIP—SELECTION OF FINDLAY AS THE SEAT OF JUSTICE—ORGANIZATION OF HANCOCK COUNTY—COUNTY ELECTIONS OF 1828 AND LISTS OF ELECTORS—OFFICERS CHOSEN IN APRIL AND OCTOBER, 1828—DERIVATION OF NAME—BRIEF SKETCH OF JOHN HANCOCK—ORIGINAL AND PRESENT AREAS AND BOUNDARIES OF THE COUNTY—DATES OF TOWNSHIP ERECTIONS—POPULATION OF COUNTY, TOWNSHIPS AND TOWNS—PRESENT CONDITION OF THE COUNTY COMPARED WITH WHAT IT WAS ONE HUNDRED YEARS AGO.

THE first authentic record we find of the white man's claim to this portion of the red man's domain is the Virginia title to the great Northwest Territory, acquired through its several charters granted by James I in 1606, 1609 and 1611, without any recognition of the original owners and occupants of the soil. That colony first attempted to exercise authority over its extensive dominions lying northwest of the Ohio River, when, in 1769, the House of Burgesses passed the following act:

WHEREAS, The people situated on the Mississippi, in the said county of Botetourt, will be very remote from the court house and must necessarily become a separate county as soon as their numbers are sufficient, which probably will happen in a short time, be it therefore enacted by the authority aforesaid, that the inhabitants of that part of the said county of Botetourt which lies on the said water shall be exempted from the payment of any levies to be laid by the said county court for the purpose of building a court house and prison for said county.

Civil government between the Ohio and Mississippi Rivers existed only in name until 1778, when, after the conquest of the country by Gen. George Rogers Clark, the Virginia Legislature organized the county of Illinois, embracing within its limits all of the lands lying northwest of the Ohio River to which Virginia had any claim. Col. John Todd received appointment from the governor of Virginia as civil commandant and lieutenant of the county. He served until his death at the battle of Blue Licks in 1782, and Timothy de Montbrun was his successor. In 1783 the General Assembly of Virginia passed an act authorizing her delegates in Congress to convey to the United States all the rights of Virginia to the territory northwest of the Ohio River. Pursuant to this act, Thomas Jefferson, Samuel Hardy, Arthur Lee and James Monroe, the Virginia delegates, ceded to the General Government, on the 1st of March, 1784, all right, title and claim of soil and jurisdiction to said territory previously held by Virginia. The deed of cession was accepted by Congress on the same day, and the United States thus secured the title of that State to the soil of Ohio.

Another claim, however, still remained to be satisfied, which was more closely connected with northern Ohio than the preceding one. This claim reaches back to the founding of Connecticut, the original charter of which was granted by Charles II in 1662. It defined the limits of the grant to be "from the south line of Massachusetts on the north to Long Island Sound on the south, and from the Narragansett River on the east to the Pacific Ocean on the west," which embraced all the country lying between the 41st and 42d degrees north latitude. These boundaries included not only what is now Connecticut, but also portions of New York and New Jersey, nearly half of Pennsylvania, the northern parts of Ohio, Indiana and Illinois, and a strip off the southern part of Michigan, besides portions of Iowa, Nebraska, Colorado, Wyoming, Utah, Nevada and California. The north half of Hancock County was embraced in the territory claimed by Connecticut under its charter, which is the principal reason for mentioning it in this connection.

A dispute soon arose between New York and Connecticut as to their boundaries, when the King, in 1664, appointed commissioners to settle it. They decided that the Maronee River should be the western boundary of Connecticut. With this decision against her, Connecticut neglected for nearly a century to assert her claim to any territory west of New York. In 1681 a charter was granted to William Penn of the territory embraced in the limits of Pennsylvania. This, of course, embraced a large part of the territory included in the charter of Connecticut, and bitter quarrels now sprung up between the two colonies as to their respective rights. In 1753 a company was formed in Connecticut to plant a colony on the Susquehanna River, on lands they claimed as included in her charter. A purchase was made of the sachems of the Six Nations by this company in 1754, at Wyoming, and in 1774 a township was formed there, called Westmoreland, which sent a representative to the Legislature of Connecticut. Pennsylvania and Connecticut both sold the same lands, and both agreed to give possession, which caused constant quarrels, and resort was often had to arms to expel those in possession. In 1770 the Legislature of Connecticut sent to England certain questions respecting her title to the lands west of New York. The answers were favorable to her claims, and she determined to enforce them, but the Revolutionary war coming on suspended the controversy.

In 1781 the two States appointed commissioners to determine the dispute, and an act of Congress was passed granting to these commissioners full power to act in the final settlement of the conflicting claims. The commissioners met at Trenton, N. J., in 1782, and after a full hearing decided that Connecticut had no right to the lands in dispute, but that they belonged to Pennsylvania. The State of Connecticut acquiesced in the decision, but still claimed all the lands west of Pennsylvania lying between the 41st and 42d degrees of latitude. To avoid all future trouble, Connecticut, in 1786, renounced her claim to said lands excepting those lying within a line drawn north and south 120 miles west of Pennsylvania. This proposition was accepted by Congress, and the controversy finally settled, the United States, however, retaining full legal jurisdiction over said territory. The strip of country thus confirmed to Connecticut has since been known as the Western Reserve. Massachusetts and New York also laid claim to a portion of Ohio, but they too ceded their rights to the General Government about the same time as Virginia and Connecticut.

Before the Government, however, could take possession of the lands



O. H. Wilson



lying northwest of the Ohio River, a title from the Indians was necessary, and this too was finally obtained, though many bloody campaigns intervened ere a peaceable settlement could be effected on the lands purchased by the first two treaties. Through the treaty of Fort Stanwix, consummated with the Six Nations October 22, 1784, the indefinite claim of that confederacy to the soil of Ohio was extinguished. This was followed January 21, 1785, by the treaty of Fort McIntosh, by which the Delawares, Wyandots, Ottawas and Chippewas relinquished all claim to the territory lying east of the Cuyahoga River, Portage Path and Tuscarawas River, and south of a line running southwest from Fort Laurens, on the Tuscarawas (the town of Bolivar), to Fort Loramie, located on the portage between the Big Miami and the headwaters of the Maumee; thence along said portage to the latter river; thence down the Maumee to its mouth, and thence along the south shore of Lake Erie to the mouth of the Cuyahoga River. By the treaty of Fort Finney, consummated January 31, 1786, the claim of the Shawnees to the coveted territory was extinguished. The treaty of Fort Harmar, January 9, 1789, had a similar object in view; but it was not until August 3, 1795, that anything like a permanent peace was established. By the treaty of Greenville, ratified on that date, the several Indian tribes recognized the line established by former treaties, the only change occurring upon reaching Fort Loramie (Shelby County), whence it ran to Fort Recovery, in the southwest corner of Mercer County, and thence southwest to the Ohio opposite the mouth of the Kentucky River. All of the Western Reserve lying west of the Cuyahoga River was secured from the Indians by a treaty made at Fort Industry (Toledo), July 4, 1805. By the treaties of 1807, 1808 and 1817, what is now known as Northwestern Ohio was purchased from the Indians, and certain reservations, described in Chapter I, set aside for their uses. In 1818 the Miamis ceded their claims to the United States, and in 1829 the Delaware Reservation was purchased by the Government; in 1831 those belonging to the Shawnees, Senecas and remnants of other tribes; in 1838 the lands of the Ottawas were obtained, and in 1842 the Wyandots sold to the Government the last acre owned by them within the limits of this State. Thus every vestige of Indian title to the soil of Ohio was forever extinguished, and in July, 1843, the last remnant of the once powerful Indian tribes of the Ohio Valley removed to the far West.

When the United States had obtained possession of the country north and west of the Ohio River, Congress took the great step which resulted in the establishment of a wise and salutary civil government. On the 13th of July, 1787, after a prolonged discussion of the principles and issues involved, "An Ordinance for the Government of the Territory of the United States Northwest of the River Ohio," which has since been known as "the Ordinance of 1787," or the "Ordinance of Freedom," was adopted. By this great and statesmanlike ordinance, provision was made for successive forms of territorial government, adapted to successive steps of advancement in the settlement and development of the Western country. "This remarkable instrument," says Chief Justice Chase, "was the last gift of the Congress of the old confederation to the country, and it was a fit consummation of their glorious labors." Up to this time the Government, to avoid infringements upon the rights of the Indians, had discouraged and prevented the settlement of the lands northwest of the Ohio, but on the passage of the ordinance emigration was fostered and encouraged in every way, and when

the settlers went into the wilderness they found the law already there. "It was impressed upon the soil itself, while it yet bore up nothing but the forest."

On the 15th of August, 1796, Wayne County was erected by the proclamation of Gov. St. Clair. It was the third county formed in the Northwest Territory, and embraced the following immense scope of country: "Beginning at the mouth of the Cuyahoga River, upon Lake Erie, and with the said river to the portage between it and the Tuscarawas branch of the Muskingum; thence down the said branch to the forks at the carrying place above Fort Laurens; thence by a west line to the east boundary of Hamilton County (which is a due north line from the lower Shawnee town upon the Scioto River); thence by a line west northerly to the southern part of the portage between the Miami of the Ohio and St. Mary's River; thence by a line also west northerly to the southwestern part of the portage between the Wabash and the Miami of Lake Erie (the Maumee), where Fort Wayne now stands; thence by a line west northerly to the southern part of Lake Michigan; thence along the western shores of the same to the northwest part thereof (including the lands upon the streams emptying into said lakes); thence by a due north line to the territorial boundary in Lake Superior, and with the said boundary through Lakes Huron, St. Clair and Erie to the mouth of Cuyahoga River, the place of beginning." These boundaries include all of Michigan and portions of Ohio, Indiana, Illinois and Wisconsin. The cities of Chicago, Milwaukee and Detroit, as well as every town in northern Indiana, and northern Ohio, west of the Cuyahoga River, were within the original limits of Wayne County. Of course Northwestern Ohio, though yet an Indian territory, formed a portion of said county.

Upon the erection of Greene County, March 24, 1803, the State line between Ohio and Michigan was designated as its northern boundary, and this portion of Northwestern Ohio was under the nominal jurisdiction of Greene until 1805, when Champaign was erected. The latter county also extended to the northern line of Ohio, and the scattering settlers between Springfield and the Maumee were subject to the jurisdiction of Champaign. Squire Carlin says he remembers well a case of debt where a man was taken from the Maumee to the jail in Urbana, Mr. Carlin's father being the officer who had charge of the prisoner. In 1817 Logan County was cut off Champaign, and, though the line established by the Greenville Treaty was the northern boundary of said county, it also had jurisdiction over the United States Reservation along the Maumee Rapids, which was designated, by the act of erection, as a part of Logan County.

We have already seen that the Government, by the treaties of 1807, 1808 and 1817, obtained all the lands embraced in Northwestern Ohio. In the spring of 1819 surveyors were sent into the new purchase to divide it into townships six miles square, and others soon followed to subdivide said townships into sections one mile square. The first survey was completed in 1819, and ere the close of 1820 all of the townships had been sectionalized.

On the 12th of February, 1820, an act was passed by the General Assembly erecting the newly acquired territory into fourteen counties, viz.: Van Wert, Mercer, Putnam, Allen, Hancock, Hardin, Crawford, Marion, Seneca, Sandusky, Wood, Henry, Paulding and Williams. By this act, which went into effect April 1, 1820, Hancock, Henry, Putnam, Paulding

and Williams were attached to Wood County, which was organized under the same act, with the temporary seat of justice at the town of Maumee, and the first election held the first Monday in April, 1820. The territory erected as Hancock County embraced Townships 1 and 2 south, and 1 and 2 north of the base line in Ranges 9, 10, 11 and 12 east of the first principal meridian. The base line runs east and west on the 41st degree of latitude, which passes through the center of this county, while the first meridian is the boundary line between Ohio and Indiana. At the time of the organization of Wood County the family of Benjamin J. Cox were the only white inhabitants of Hancock, and it is hardly probable that Mr. Cox traveled to Maumee to cast his vote at the first election.

Upon the organization of Wood County the commissioners erected all of the territory under its jurisdiction into one township, named Waynesfield, in honor of Gen. Anthony Wayne, whose brilliant deeds are so closely associated with the Maumee Valley. No changes occurred until the 4th of March, 1822, when the commissioners ordered "that the township of Waynesfield, within the jurisdiction of the county of Wood, be co-extensive with the boundaries of the counties of Wood and Hancock, and to include the same." Perrysburg was then the seat of justice of Wood County, and also the voting place of Waynesfield Township.

On the 28th of May, 1823, the same board ordered "that so much of the town of Waynesfield as is included in the unorganized county of Hancock be set off and organized, and the same is hereby organized into a township by the name of Findlay, and that the election for township officers be held on the 1st of July, A. D. 1823, at the house of Wilson Vance, in the said township." The tally sheet on record at Bowling Green shows that thirteen votes were cast at the election, and that Robert McKinnis and Wilson Vance were elected justices of the new township. Job Chamberlin, Sr., William Moreland and Benjamin Chandler were the judges of election, and Wilson Vance and Matthew Reighly, clerks. The second election took place April 5, 1824, when eighteen votes were cast. Job Chamberlin, Sr., William Moreland and Jacob Poe were the judges, and Matthew Reighly and Wilson Vance, clerks of election. Job Chamberlin, Sr., Wilson Vance and Jacob Poe were chosen trustees; Matthew Reighly, clerk; Job Chamberlin, Sr., treasurer; Wilson Vance, lister; Philip McKinnis, constable; John Hunter and John Gardner, fence viewers, and Robert McKinnis and William Moreland, overseers of the poor. All of these men were pioneers of Hancock County, and are fully mentioned in the history of the respective townships to which their homes subsequently belonged. It is unnecessary to follow up in like manner the elections held in Findlay Township in 1825, 1826 and 1827, for, though many new names appear among the electors of those years, nearly all will be found in the lists of voters who took part in the April and October elections of 1828, the names of whom are given in this chapter.

On the 2d of February, 1824, the General Assembly passed the following act relative to this county:

Resolved, By the General Assembly of the State of Ohio, that John Owens, of the county of Champaign; Alexander Long, of the county of Logan, and Forest Meeker, of the county of Delaware, be and they are hereby appointed Commissioners to locate and fix the seat of justice in and for the county of Hancock.

In compliance with this act said commissioners, after examining several

sites in Hancock County, made their report to the court of common pleas of Wood County at its October session of 1824, the following record of which appears on the journal in the minutes of that term:

The Commissioners, appointed to establish the seat of justice in the county of Hancock, in the State of Ohio, report that they have selected the town of Findlay, in said county of Hancock, as the most suitable site for the seat of justice of said county, as per their report on file in the office of the Clerk of this Court.

By the close of 1827 Hancock contained a sufficient population to entitle her to home rule, and on the 21st of January, 1828, the General Assembly passed the following act for the separate organization of the county:

1. *Be it enacted, etc.*, That the county of Hancock, as heretofore laid off, shall be and the same is hereby organized into a separate and distinct county; and all suits and prosecutions which shall be pending, and all crimes which shall have been committed within said county of Hancock, previous to its organization, shall be prosecuted to final judgment and execution within the county of Wood, in the same manner they would have been had the county of Hancock not been organized; and the Sheriff, Coroner and Constables of Wood County shall execute, within the county of Hancock, such process as shall be necessary to carry into effect such suits, prosecutions and judgments; and the Treasurer of the county of Wood shall collect all such taxes as shall have been levied and imposed within the county of Hancock previous to the taking effect of this act.

2. That all Justices of the Peace and Constables within the county of Hancock shall continue to exercise the duties of their respective offices until their term of service expires, in the same manner as if the county of Hancock had remained attached to the county of Wood.

3. That on the first Monday of April next the legal voters within the said county of Hancock shall assemble within their respective townships, at the place of holding elections, and elect their several county officers, who shall hold their offices until the next annual election. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after the 1st day of March next.

Findlay Township then embraced the whole county, and in compliance with the third section of this act an election was held on the 7th of April, 1828, the polling place being at the old log schoolhouse in the village of Findlay, now the site of the Indianapolis, Bloomington & Western Railroad depot. The poll book on record in the Clerk's office shows that seventy-four electors voted at that election, the following list of whom, together with the present names of the townships wherein their homes were then located, will fairly illustrate the sparsely settled condition of the county fifty-eight years ago:

Ephraim Elder, Delaware.
Asher Wickham, Marion.
Samuel Sargent, Big Lick.
Thomas Slight, Findlay.
William Hackney, Amanda.
John P. Hamilton, Findlay.
Henry George, Amanda.
Thomas Thompson, Amanda.
Joseph A. Sargent, Marion.
Abraham Huff, Amanda.
Peter George, Amanda.
Amos Beard, Amanda.
Mordecai Hammond, Jackson.
Bleuford Hamilton, Findlay.
Don Alonzo Hamlin, Delaware.
John Elder, Delaware.
Joseph Slight, Findlay.
George W. Simpson, Findlay.
Minor T. Wickham, Findlay.
Nathan Frakes, Allen.
Thomas Wingate, ———.
Wilson Vance, Findlay.
Joseph Johnson, Findlay.
Thomas Chester, Findlay.
William Wade, Liberty.
John C. Wickham, Findlay.
Josiah Elder, Delaware.
John Huff, Amanda.
Jesse Hewitt, Amanda.
John Long, Ridge Tp., Wyandot Co.
Daniel Hamlin, Delaware.
Sampson Dildine, Ridge Tp., Wyandot Co.
Asa M. Lake, Delaware.
Reuben W. Hamlin, Delaware
George Swigart, Hardin County,
John Jones, Findlay.
William Moreland, Jr., Findlay.
John Taylor, Findlay.
John Fishel, Jr., Liberty.
James Beard, Amanda.

Godfrey Wolford, Delaware.
Edwin S. Jones, Findlay.
Selden Blodget, Blanchard.
Job Chamberlin, Sr., Findlay.
John Gardner, Findlay.
Robert McCullough, Liberty.
Jacob Poe, Liberty.
Ebenezer Wilson, Liberty.
Charles D. Smith, Ridge Tp., Wyandot Co.
Robert McKinnis, Liberty.
John Shoemaker, Amanda.
John Boyd, Findlay.
Charles McKinnis, Liberty.
John J. Hendricks, Amanda.
Abel Tanner, Madison.
Jacob Moreland, Findlay.
George Shaw, Blanchard.
Asa Lake, Delaware.
William J. Greer, Delaware.
Squire Carlin, Findlay.
Simeon Ransbottom, Madison.
Benjamin Chandler, Blanchard.
John Tullis, Madison.
James McKinnis, Liberty.
William Moreland, Findlay.
David Gitchel, Findlay.
John Simpson, Findlay.
John Travis, Liberty.
Joseph De Witt, Findlay.
Philip McKinnis, Liberty.
Matthew Reighly, Findlay.
Joshua Hedges, Findlay.
Reuben Hale, Findlay.
Isaac Johnson, Findlay.

Several of the foregoing pioneers subsequently removed into other townships; and of the whole number, Squire Carlin, of Findlay, and Joseph Johnson, of Portage Township, are the only survivors now residents of this county. After the election it was discovered that George Swigart's cabin stood just across the line in Hardin County, and his vote was therefore illegal. John Long, Charles D. Smith and Sampson Dildine lived in the territory cut off Hancock in the erection of Wyandot, but the remaining seventy voters resided within the present limits of the county. Abraham Huff, Wilson Vance and Mordecai Hammond were the judges of election, and John C. Wickham and Edwin S. Jones, clerks; while the several candidates for the respective offices, together with the number of votes each received, are as follows:

Commissioners.—Job Chamberlin, 31; Charles McKinnis, 35; Godfrey Wolford, 74; John P. Hamilton, 41; and John Long, 39. Godfrey Wolford, John Long and John P. Hamilton were elected.

Sheriff.—Reuben Hale, 34; and Don Alonzo Hamlin, 39; the latter being therefore the successful candidate.

Auditor.—Matthew Reighly was the only candidate for this office, and received 59 votes.

Treasurer.—Joshua Hedges was the only candidate for treasurer, and received 57 votes.

Coroner.—Isaac Johnson, 34; Thomas Slight, 37; and John Boyd, 3. Mr. Slight having a plurality of three votes was declared elected.

Assessor.—John Long, 35; and William Hackney, 39; the latter having a majority of four.

These officials served until the succeeding general election, held October 14, 1828. The county then contained three townships, viz.: Findlay, Amanda and Welfare, the name of the last mentioned being subsequently changed to Delaware. The voters of Findlay Township at that election were as follows:

John C. Wickham, Wilson Vance, Squire Carlin, Bleuford Hamilton, David Foster, Asher Wickham, John Jones, Job Chamberlin, Edwin S. Jones, Thomas Chester, John Boyd, John Simpson, James McKinnis, Charles McKinnis, Reuben Hale, William Moreland, Jr., Joseph Johnson, John Travis, Ebenezer Wilson, Minor T. Wickham, Jacob Poe, Joseph A. Sargent, George W. Simpson, John P. Hamilton, James B. Moore, Robert McCullough, Joseph DeWitt, Matthew Reighly, William Wade,

Joshua Jones, William Moreland, William DeWitt, Simeon Ransbottom, Joshua Hedges, John Hunter, Robert McKinnis, William Taylor, Thomas Slight, John Tullis, James Peltier.

The electors of Amanda Township as then constituted, were as follows: Sampson Dildine, William Hackney, James Beard, John Huff, John Long, Sr., John Long, Jr., John Shoemaker, Samuel Sargent, Jesse Hewitt, Levi Poulson, Robert Long, John Beard, Abraham Huff, Jr., Peter George, Abraham Huff, Sr., John J. Hendricks, Thomas Huff, Thomas Cole, David Hagerman, Adam Beard, Andrew Robb, Thomas Thompson.

Nineteen votes were cast in Welfare Township in the following order: John Wolford, William J. Greer, Mordecai Hammond, Don Alonzo Hamlin, Joseph B. Hamlin, Nathan Williams, Daniel Hamlin, Absalom Wolford, Asa M. Lake, Van R. Hancock, Josiah Elder, Aquilla Gilbert, Asa Lake, Warren Hancock, Reuben W. Hamlin, Robert Elder, Godfrey Wolford, Harvey Smith, James Thomas.

This makes a grand total of eighty-one votes polled at that election, or seven more than were cast the previous spring, though several pioneers did not vote. The townships of Amanda and Welfare (now Delaware) then embraced the whole of the southeast quarter of the county south of the base line and east of the Bellefontaine road (including the lands cut off in the erection of Wyandot County), also the territory now constituting Big Lick; while all the balance of the county was yet within the bounds and under the jurisdiction of Findlay Township. At that election John Long, John P. Hamilton and Charles McKinnis were elected commissioners, their opponents being William J. Greer, Mordecai Hammond and Godfrey Wolford. Squire Carlin and John C. Wickham were the candidates for sheriff, and the latter was elected. Matthew Reighly was again a candidate for auditor, but was defeated by William Hackney. Edwin S. Jones was elected treasurer over Joshua Hedges. Thomas Slight beat Reuben W. Hamlin for coroner; and Edwin S. Jones was defeated by Don Alonzo Hamlin for the assessorship. There was no great strife for the offices in those days, as the remuneration was so very small that few cared to spend their time in such a poor paying business. Yet some one had to discharge the duties of the respective positions, and it is highly creditable to the pioneers that good men were usually chosen.

Hancock County was named in honor of John Hancock, one of the leading spirits of 1776 who sent forth the immortal Declaration of Independence—an instrument whose clarion notes rang throughout every nation, causing the spark of freedom to burn with renewed hope in the hearts of oppressed humanity. Bearing the relation to this distinguished patriot that the people of Hancock County do, and associated as his memory is with their homes, it is not inappropriate here to give a short biographical sketch of one who contributed so much to the establishment of our free government.

John Hancock was born at Braintree, Mass., January 23, 1737. He graduated at Harvard College in 1754, and then entered his uncle's counting-house, in Boston. When in his twenty-seventh year his uncle died, and he inherited his business and much of his property. The position of an enterprising and successful merchant, in those days, was one of considerable importance, and gave him a prominent place in society. He was "easy and engaging in his manners, liberal in the employment of his wealth, turn-

ing his influence to good account, apt and ready to serve the public." In the commencement of the difficulties with England he was among the foremost of the band of patriots who announced their determination to consecrate both their wealth and lives to the cause of liberty, and in the discussion of the best method of expelling the British troops from Boston, he exclaimed: "Burn Boston, and make John Hancock a beggar, if the public good requires it!" In 1774 he was elected to the first Provincial Congress, at Concord, and was chosen its president. Ill health prevented his being sent to the Continental Congress at Philadelphia that year, but the following season he was added to the Massachusetts delegation. At this time Gov. Gage, the British commandant at Boston, issued a proclamation, offering pardon to all rebels, save and except John Hancock and Samuel Adams, the offences of whom, in the language of the proclamation, were "of too flagitious a nature to admit of any other consideration than that of condign punishment." This denunciation, which was regarded as a mark of distinction by the patriots, gave Hancock a capital introduction to the Continental Congress, which body, on the resignation of Peyton Randolph, chose him its president, and in this capacity he affixed his bold signature to the Declaration of Independence. In 1779 Hancock, impelled by ill health, resigned his seat in Congress, and the same year served as a member of the Massachusetts Convention, at Cambridge, for the formation of a State constitution. Upon the adoption of that instrument he was chosen Governor, and was annually thereafter elected to that office, with the exception of the term of George Bowdoin, in 1786, during the remainder of his life. He retained his popularity to the last, and died in office as Governor of Massachusetts, October 8, 1793, in his fifty-seventh year.

Hancock County originally was about twenty-four miles square, and covered an area of 585 square miles of territory. No change occurred in its boundary lines until the erection of Wyandot County, February 3, 1845, when forty-five square miles were taken off the southeast corner in the formation of the new county, leaving Hancock with its present area of 540 square miles, or 345,600 acres. It is one of the central counties of Northwestern Ohio, and is bounded on the north by Wood County, on the east by Seneca and Wyandot, on the south by Wyandot and Hardin, and on the west by Allen and Putnam.

The county is divided into eighteen townships, erected in the following order: Findlay, May 28, 1823; Amanda and Delaware, in April, 1828; Jackson, December 7, 1829; Liberty and Marion, December 6, 1830; Big Lick, Blanchard and Van Buren, March 7, 1831; Washington, March 5, 1832; Union, June 4, 1832; Eagle, December 3, 1832; Cass and Portage, March 4, 1833; Pleasant, March 2, 1835; Orange, December 5, 1836; Madison, June 1, 1840, and Allen, in June, 1850.

The first official census of Hancock County was taken in 1830, when it contained a population of 813. The growth of the county by decades since that time has been as follows: 1840, 9,986; 1850, 16,751; 1860, 22,886; 1870, 23,847, and 1880, 27,784.

The following table presents in detail the population of the several townships and towns by decades since 1840, so far as the same is given in the United States census reports:

	1840	1850	1860	1870	1880
Allen Township (including Van Buren)	.....	869	1,009	969	1,025
Van Buren Village	.....	.....	.....	157	130
Amanda Township (including Vanlue)	490	1,162	1,470	1,469	1,474
Vanlue Village	.....	.....	.....	.....	364
Big Lick Township	431	1,008	1,256	1,179	1,261
Blanchard Township (including Benton)	629	1,051	1,161	1,304	1,286
Benton Ridge Village	.....	.....	.....	.....	179
Cass Township	588	621	860	759	829
Delaware Township (including Mount Blanchard)	532	1,035	1,231	1,280	1,455
Mount Blanchard Village	.....	.....	.....	.....	285
Eagle Township	524	950	1,371	1,330	1,284
Findlay Township (including Findlay)	1,024	2,032	3,346	4,073	5,553
City of Findlay	560	1,256	2,467	3,315	4,633
Jackson Township (including Houcktown)	631	830	1,272	1,209	1,338
Houcktown Village	.....	.....	.....	.....	112
Liberty Township	592	874	1,050	1,011	1,101
Madison Township (including Williamstown and Arlington)	.....	667	844	967	1,232
Williamstown Village	.....	.....	.....	.....	128
Arlington Village	.....	.....	.....	.....	136
Marion Township	707	904	1,064	990	987
Orange Township	314	704	987	1,167	1,451
Pleasant Township (including McComb)	252	522	1,151	1,336	1,866
McComb Village	.....	.....	.....	319	417
Portage Township	675	614	835	899	914
Union Township (including Cannonsburg, Rawson and Cory)	637	1,150	1,604	1,546	1,876
Cannonsburg Village	.....	.....	.....	.....	75
Rawson Village	.....	.....	.....	.....	227
Cory Village	.....	.....	.....	.....	199
Van Buren Township	432	536	713	780	907
Washington Township (including Arcadia and West Fostoria)	830	1,222	1,662	1,579	1,945
Arcadia Village	.....	.....	.....	288	396
West Fostoria	.....	.....	.....	.....	371

Comparing the present condition of Hancock County with what it was 100 years ago, the wonderful transformation that has taken place is truly amazing. Civilization had not yet come to disturb the equanimity of the red man as he smoked the pipe of peace at the council fire. Where now are towns and hamlets filled with busy populations intent upon the accumulation of wealth, the mastery of knowledge and the pursuits of pleasure, the wolf, bear and panther roamed in search of prey, the deer browsed and the pheasant drummed his monotonous note. Where now stands the glowing furnace from which tongues of flame are bursting, and where the busy water-wheel once furnished power for numerous mills, half-naked, dusky warriors fashioned their spears with rude implements of stone, and made themselves hooks out of the bones of animals for alluring the finny tribe. Where now are fertile fields, upon which the thrifty farmer turns the furrow, which his neighbor takes up and runs on till it reaches from one end of this broad State to the other, and where are flocks and herds rejoicing in rich meadows, gladdened by abundant streams and springs, or reposing at the heated noon-tide beneath ample shade, not a blow had been struck against the giants of the forest, the soil rested in virgin purity, the streams glided on in majesty, unvexed by wheel and unobstructed by device of man.

Where now the long train rushes on with the speed of the wind over



A. H. HYATT.



plain and glen, across brook and river, awakening the echoes of the hills the long day through, and at the midnight hour screaming out its shrill whistle in fiery defiance, the wild native, issuing from his rude hut, trotted on in his forest path, pointed his bark canoe across the deep stream, knowing the progress of time only by the rising and setting sun, troubled by no meridians for its index, starting on his way when his nap was ended, and stopping for rest when a spot was reached that pleased his fancy; and of the wonderful gas resources which, from deep down in the bowels of the earth, furnish fuel and light for numerous stores and factories, and give genial warmth to the poor man's happy home, and to the rich as they chat merrily in the luxurious drawing-room, not the faintest imagination existed. This vast lake of fuel rested unknown or unthought of for a generation after the white man came, beneath the superincumbent strata where it had been fashioned by the Creator's hand.

CHAPTER IV.

ORIGINAL APPEARANCE OF HANCOCK COUNTY—ITS FOREST AND FRUIT-BEARING TREES AND VINES—THE WILD ANIMALS, BIRDS, REPTILES AND FISH FOUND IN THIS PORTION OF THE STATE, AND THEIR GRADUAL EXTERMINATION—THE WILD HONEY BEE—GENERAL TOPOGRAPHY OF THE COUNTY—ITS STREAMS AND WATER PRIVILEGES—MARSH AND PRAIRIE LANDS—THE WILD CAT THICKET, SWAMP AND FALLEN TIMBER TRACTS—DIVERSITY OF SOIL—THE SAND AND LIMESTONE RIDGES—AGRICULTURE IN HANCOCK COUNTY—IMPLEMENTS USED BY THE EARLY SETTLERS, AND THE INTRODUCTION OF BETTER MACHINERY—PIONEER STOCK COMPARED WITH THAT OF THE PRESENT—NUMBER OF HORSES AND CATTLE ASSESSED IN THE COUNTY IN 1824 AND 1829—STOCK AND CROP STATISTICS—THE HANCOCK COUNTY AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY—ITS SMALL BEGINNING, STEADY GROWTH AND PRESENT PROSPERITY.

WHEN the pioneers came into the territory now embraced in Hancock County, it was, excepting the marsh lands, one vast, unbroken forest. The soil was deep and fertile, and bore up an abundant growth of vegetation, while the trees stood close and were of gigantic size. Beauty and variety marked the plants which grew and bloomed beneath the leafy canopy.

"Full many a flower is born to blush unseen,
And waste its sweetness on the desert air."

Hill, dale and streamlet, with all the families of plants, from the lofty forest tree to the creeping ivy, gave to the landscape variety and picturesque beauty. From time immemorial an unchanged progression of periodical decay had been forming a rich vegetable soil in preparation for the era when civilized man should take possession and become its cultivator. Oak, elm, ash and hickory in their several varieties, red and white beech, maple, or sugar tree, walnut, butternut, cottonwood, linden, or basswood, poplar, cherry, sycamore, hackberry, soft maple, buckeye, mulberry, sumach, cucumber, ironwood, locust, dogwood, willow, boxwood and sassafras were the principal kinds of timber found in this county. Nearly all of the more valuable

timber has long ago disappeared before the sturdy blows of the woodsman's ax. If the forest that once grew upon many tracts of land in this county now stood thereon, it would be worth much more than the land. But the pioneers little imagined such a day would ever come, yet many of them lived to regret the destruction of the giant walnut and poplar trees once so plentiful in Hancock County. There was also a varying undergrowth of fruit-bearing trees and vines, such as the plum, crab-apple, grape, white, red and black haw, alder, whortleberry, blackberry, raspberry, serviceberry, huckleberry, gooseberry, cranberry and strawberry; also nuts of several varieties, and hops, ginseng, snakeroot, bloodroot, chocolate root, and innumerable species of other roots and herbage having valuable medicinal properties, all the spontaneous growth of Northwestern Ohio.

Wild animals roamed at will throughout the earlier years of the county's history, and some of the pioneers could tell of dangers and hair-breadth escapes from an enraged or wounded bear, a pack of ravenous wolves or a treacherous wild cat, at that time more numerous in this county than cattle, sheep or hogs. The deer, panther, wolf, bear, wild cat, fox, marten, otter, polecat, beaver, groundhog or woodchuck, opossum, raccoon, hare, rabbit, the black, grey, red or pine, flying and ground or striped squirrel, muskrat, mink, weasel, porcupine, field-mouse, deer-mouse, common rat and mouse, once abounded in this portion of the State. Of these the panther, bear, wolf, wild cat, beaver, marten, deer and porcupine are now extinct in Hancock County. To rid the country of the more dangerous wild beasts was the self-imposed duty of every pioneer, and the fight was waged with such unrelenting vigor that by 1840 few of them remained. The demand for furs was also an incentive to the hunter, as well as the premiums paid on the scalps of wolves, panthers and bears; so that great quantities of game were slaughtered for the purpose of replenishing the scanty pocketbooks of the struggling settlers, who usually found this an easy mode of earning a few dollars.

"The wolf," says Job Chamberlin in his "Personal Reminiscences," "was the most troublesome of all the wild animals. It was almost impossible to raise sheep on account of them, and we had to put our sheep in high pens at night to save them from these dangerous pests. We could hear the wolves howling nearly every night, and frequently two or three gangs at a time, one gang would howl, and the others would answer them. My father took great pains to destroy them, and killed forty-nine in all. He took the scalps to Perrysburg, which was the county seat of this district at that time, and at first got $1.25 bounty for each scalp, but it was soon raised to $3.25. He had to take them within thirty days after killing, and make oath that he killed them. To save going himself he sometimes would bring the wolves to his house alive, and get Joseph Gordon, the mail carrier, to kill them and get the bounty. * * * *

"Porcupines were plenty, but we did not find them so remarkable an animal as they were represented. They were said to be able to throw their quills quite a distance, and some people were at first afraid to approach them for fear they would 'shoot' their quills into them; but they had no such power. They were full of quills from the top of the head to the tip of the tail, and if anything touched one on the back in an unfriendly way it would strike upward with its tail with great force, and if it hit an enemy it stuck it full of quills; if it hit a stick, as was often the case, the quills would fly a con-

siderable distance, which, perhaps, gave rise to the belief that they could throw them. Our cattle frequently came home with their noses full of quills, which were bearded at the point, and, like a bee-sting, would keep working in. They were found in different parts of hogs, cattle and dogs, and would work through them if the quill did not come in contact with a bone or some substance that they could not penetrate."

Among the birds which are natives of this county, or visit it annually, either to build or touching it in their migration to a more northerly region, are the bald and gray eagle, rarely if ever seen; the hen hawk, fish hawk, pigeon hawk, raven, crow, shrike or butcher-bird, the cat and screech owl, the swan, wild goose, black duck, mallard, wood duck, shelldrake, teal, butterbolt, loon, dipper, water hen or coot, plover, jacksnipe, sandsnipe, kingfisher, turkey, pheasant, partridge or quail, woodcock, rail, pigeon, dove, whip-poor-will, robin, thrush, catbird, cuckoo, lark, oriole, bluejay, fieldfare or red breasted grossbeak, martin, the barn swallow, bank swallow, oven swallow, bluebird, wren, cow bird, bobolink or reedbird, yellow-bird, redbird, blackbird, redwing, starling, black or large woodpecker, red-headed woodpecker, gray woodpecker, flicker, cedar bird or toppy, crookbill, green-bird, humming bird, and a variety of small birds with whose species the writer is not familiar. "When we came to the hill," says Mr. Chamberlin, "we found the woods full of birds. Those of a carnivorous disposition gave us much trouble for many years. The hawks, of which there were four or five kinds, were constantly on the alert to pounce upon our chickens; the owl came in for his share, and the raven was also on the lookout for chickens and eggs. I once saw a raven attack a sheep. It was winter time, and a deep snow covered the ground. While I was sitting in the house I happened to look across an adjoining field and saw a raven busily engaged at something, and soon discovered that it was trying to kill a sheep. It would fly on the sheep's back and work away as hard as it could. The sheep would lie down, but it was then no better off, and could not get rid of its enemy. I ran there as quick as I could, and found that a dog had bitten and crippled the sheep so badly that it could not get away from the raven, which had torn the wool off its back just over the kidney, and was feasting off the savory meat." Some of the birds enumerated in the foregoing list have become very rare or altogether extinct, while others have come into the county. The white-breasted swallow is one of the later inhabitants, as is also the hardy, pugnacious English sparrow, which since his coming has driven many of the most beautiful songsters from the towns now inhabited by those little fellows in great numbers.

Among the snakes found in this locality were the black and yellow rattlesnakes, the former known as the massassauga. It was very vicious, and rarely grew more than two and one-half feet in length. The yellow rattlesnakes were not so plentiful in this portion of Ohio, existing principally on the limestone ridge. The blue racer, which attained a length of six and one-half feet; the water snake, a large black reptile, often growing four to five feet in length; the small black snake or white ringed viper, the spotted or house snake, the garter snake and the green snake were all very plentiful. But of those mentioned none were poisonous except the rattlesnake and white ringed viper, and these are, fortunately, nearly or altogether extinct in Hancock County.

The Blanchard and smaller streams swarmed with fish of many varieties,

and some of the stories we have heard of their abundance and size would almost paralyze the less fortunate modern angler. Mr. Chamberlin speaking on this subject says: "Fish were very plentiful in the streams. White and black suckers, 'red horse,' sturgeon, white and black bass, pike, pickerel, catheads, gars and catfish were caught in great numbers. The smaller kinds were easily caught with seine, dip-net, hook and line or fish rack, while the large fish were generally gigged. My father once undertook to secure a sturgeon which he found in the ripple just below the mill-dam, in Findlay. He struck his gig into it and attempted to press it to the bottom, but the fish instantly darted from under the gig, which precipitated my father full length into the river. He hastily got up, and seeing the fish struggling in shallow water and trying to escape, he ran and overtook it, and again gigged and secured it. The fish weighed forty-nine pounds. Another of the same kind, caught afterward, weighed seventy pounds."

The wild honey bee was the advance courier of civilization, and the well filled bee-tree was found in every part of the forest simultaneous with the pioneer log-cabin. Indeed there were few of the pioneers who had not discovered and cut down his bee-tree, and the larder was often well stocked with the delicious product of these indefatigable workers.

The first settlers of Hancock found a slightly rolling, well watered country. The summit of the Blanchard in this county is 489 feet above Lake Erie, or 1,064 feet above ocean level. There is a general sameness in the topography of the county, with a marked dip northward, noticeable in the course of the streams, most of which flow in that direction. Blanchard River, according to Col. John Johnston, who spent the greater portion of his life as a government Indian agent, was called by the Wyandots *Quegh-tu-wa*, or "claws in the water," while the Shawnees named it *Sha-po-qua-te-sepe*, meaning "one who sewed garments" or "Tailor's River." His story was that one Blanchard, a French tailor, settled among the Shawnees, married a squaw, reared a family of seven children, and lived and died upon this stream long prior to the cession of the territory, which it drains, to the United States. The early surveyors of Ohio named the stream Blanchard's Fork of the Auglaize, and thus perpetuated the memory of Blanchard. In Chapter II is told all that is positively known of this wandering Frenchman, and the reader is referred to that chapter for further information on the subject. The Blanchard rises near Kenton, the county seat of Hardin County, on the north slope of the dividing ridge between the Ohio River and Lake Erie. Flowing northward it enters Hancock County, and passing onward through the townships of Delaware, Jackson and Amanda to the northeast corner of Section 23, Marion Township, turns abruptly westward, and with a slight northerly bearing reaches Findlay; thence meandering in the same general direction across Findlay, Liberty and Blanchard Townships into Putnam County, forms a junction with the Auglaize River in the western part of that county. The banks of the Blanchard, though in places somewhat hilly and broken, generally stretch away into level bottoms, which are subject to overflows during the spring freshets. The stream has furnished in the past water-power for seven grist-mills and numerous saw-mills in this county, and has been of incalculable benefit to the country through which it flows. Its principal tributaries are from the south, Eagle, Ottawa, Riley and Lye Creeks, all of which are fully spoken of in the histories of the townships watered by them, being the most important. The north part

of the county is drained northward by several branches of Portage River and Beaver Creek, and taken altogether the water privileges and natural drainage facilities of the county are ample and sufficient. Though many small springs are found along the streams and runs, Big Spring, in the northeast corner of Amanda Township, is the only one of any particular note in this county, having furnished power many years ago for a small carding machine and grist-mill. Good drinking water is, however, readily found at various depths in any part of the county, but it is generally impregnated with lime, and sometimes possesses a strong sulphuric taste and smell, the latter being the result of the great natural gas deposits in this portion of the State, which from time immemorial has been forcing itself through the rock fissures to the surface.

From the east part of Marion Township a flat marsh extends southeastward across Big Lick Township into Seneca County. It covers from 1,500 to 2,000 acres, and from the fact that it bore up no forest it became known as "the prairie." Cranberry Marsh is a narrow strip of land originally low and wet, lying principally in the southwest part of Union Township, and extending across the line into Orange. A small portion of this tract was prairie, but nearly all the balance was once so thickly covered with the swamp willow as to render it almost impenetrable. Another small wet prairie containing about 400 acres, covered a portion of Sections 23 and 24, Union Township. But nearly all of these marsh and prairie lands have been brought under cultivation by judicious drainage, and are among the most valuable farming lands in the county. With the exception of the foregoing named tracts, the territory embraced in Hancock County originally bore up one of the grandest forests of Northwestern Ohio.

Wild Cat Thicket was one of the noted forest scenes of pioneer days. It was from one to two miles in width, and beginning in the west part of Portage Township, extended across Portage, Allen and Cass, and terminated near the center of Washington Township. From its appearance the first settlers concluded the forest had been blown down years before by a hurricane coming from the west, as all the tree tops pointed eastward. Overgrown with small timber and forest vegetation, it formed a dense thicket where wild game found a safe retreat from the vigilant hunter. Hundreds of wildcats inhabited this locality, whence they sallied forth to forage upon the surrounding farms, and the place finally became known as "Wildcat Thicket."

Two tracts in Amanda Township—"the swamp" and "the fallen timber"—were once covered by forest, but the timber was thinned out or undermined by the surface peat taking fire and burning the roots of the trees, thus bringing them to the ground. These lands in their wild state were generally quite wet, partly caused no doubt by the fallen timber blocking the surface drainage, but since cleared up and drained they are highly prized by the agriculturist.

The great majority of the lands in this county are composed of a black loam, mixed with sand, gravel or clay, according to location, and underlaid with limestone. In the more elevated sections there are patches of clay and gravel, and sometimes we find a combination of several kinds of soil. Much of the soil in the flat or wet lands is known as "muck," and is very susceptible to drought.

A narrow sand ridge, upon which the Benton road is located, runs south-

west from Findlay through the village of Benton Ridge to the Putnam County line. Two sand and gravel ridges enter the northeast corner of the county, and passing westward unite as one ridge on Section 5, Washington Township; thence runs in a southwest direction across Cass, Allen, Portage and Pleasant Townships, where it is known as "Sugar Ridge," because of the large number of sugar trees that once grew upon it. Fostoria, Van Buren and McComb are located on this ridge. Another of these narrow belts enters the northeast corner of Portage Township from Wood County, and runs southwest parallel with and about two miles north of Sugar Ridge. In the geological reports of the State these ridges are called the "ancient beaches" of Lake Erie. Limestone Ridge is an elevated belt of sand and clay, underlaid with limestone, lying south of the prairie in Big Lick Township. It was so named on account of the numerous flakes of limestone found scattered over its surface, probably the result of a great natural upheaval during the first stages of the earth's formation. Good limestone is quarried in abundance along the streams, and in several other parts of the county away from the water courses. It is used principally in the manufacture of lime, foundations of buildings and the construction of macadamized streets and roads. Taking them as a whole, Hancock may be justly proud of her lands, for they are not only rich, inexhaustible and highly productive, but there is scarcely a foot of her large area which is not susceptible of cultivation.

Every sort of crop indigenous to this portion of Ohio is successfully cultivated in Hancock County. Wheat is perhaps the greatest crop raised here, Hancock standing near the head of Ohio counties in the production of this cereal; Indian corn and oats are raised in large quantities, while barley, rye, buckwheat, flax, hay and clover are also cultivated to a considerable extent; Irish potatoes yield large crops, and nearly every other kind of vegetable grown in this latitude produces abundantly. In the horticultural statistics of the State the apple product of Hancock compares favorably with her sister counties of Northwestern Ohio. Peaches are not a success in this county, and though the smaller fruits often yield bountifully they are now regarded as a very uncertain crop. The fruit exhibited at the Fair of 1885 was indeed very creditable to the county, and is an indication of what its orchards are capable of under proper care and with judicious cultivation. Horticulture is generally neglected, and looked upon by many farmers as an almost useless expenditure of time and money. Hence scores of orchards throughout the county bear a general appearance of decay.

The agricultural implements used by the early settlers were very simple and rude. The plow was made entirely of wood except the share, clevis and draft-rods, which were of iron, and for many years had to be transported from Buffalo, New York or Cleveland, as there were no iron works in the county where the plow shares could be forged. The wooden plow was a very awkward implement, difficult to hold and hard for the team to draw. It was, however, very generally used until about 1830, when the cast iron plow, patented by Jethro Wood, was first brought into the county, though it did not gain popular favor very rapidly. The farmer looked at it and was sure it would break the first time it struck a stone or root, and then how should he replace it? The wooden mold-board would not break, and when it wore out he could take his ax and hew another out of a piece of a tree. In no one agricultural implement has there been more marked improvement than

in the plow—now made of beautifully polished cast-steel, except the beam and handles, while in Canada and some portions of the United States these too are manufactured of iron. The cast-steel plow of the present manufacture, in its several sizes, styles and adaptations to the various soils and forms of land, including the sulky or riding plow, is, among agricultural implements, the most perfect in use.

The pioneer harrow was simply the fork of a tree, with the branches on one side cut close and on the other left about a foot long to serve the purpose of teeth. In some instances a number of holes were bored through the beams and dry wooden pins driven into them. It was not for some years after the first settlement that iron or steel harrow teeth were introduced in Hancock County.

The axes, hoes, shovels and picks were rude and clumsy, and of inferior utility. The sickle and scythe were at first used to harvest the grain and hay, but the former gave way early to the cradle, with which better results could be attained with less labor. The scythe and cradle have been replaced by the mower and reaper to a great extent, though both are still used in this county.

The ordinary wooden flail was used to thresh grain until about 1840, when the horse power thresher was largely substituted. The method of cleaning the chaff from the grain by the early settlers, was by a blanket handled by two persons. The grain and the chaff were placed on the blanket, which was then tossed up and down, the wind separating a certain amount of the chaff from the grain during the operation. Fanning-mills were introduced quite early, but the first of these were very rude and little better than the primitive blanket. Improvements have been made from time to time until an almost perfect separator is now connected with every threshing machine, and the work of ten men for a whole season is done more completely by two or three men, as many horses, and a patent separator, in one day. In fact it is difficult to fix limitations upon improvements in agricultural machinery within the last fifty years. It is, however, safe to say that they have enabled the farmer to accomplish more than triple the amount of work with the same force in the same time, and do his work better than before. It has been stated on competent authority that the saving effected by new and improved implements within the last twenty years has been not less than one-half on all kinds of farm labor.

The greatest triumphs of mechanical skill in its application to agriculture are witnessed in the plow, planter, reaper and separator, as well as in many other implements adapted to the tillage, harvesting and subsequent handling of the immense crops of the country. The rude and cumbrous implements of the pioneers have been superseded by improved and apparently perfect machinery of all classes, so that the calling of the farmer is no longer synonymous with laborious toil, but is, in many ways, pleasant recreation.

The farmers of Hancock County are not behind the balance of the State in the employment of improved methods and in the use of the best machinery. It is true that in many cases they were slow to change, but much allowance should be made for surrounding circumstances. The pioneers had to contend against innumerable obstacles—with the wildness of nature, the immense growth of timber, the depredations of wild beasts and the annoyance of the swarming insect life, and the great difficulty and expense of

procuring seeds and farming implements. These various difficulties were quite sufficient to explain the slow progress made in the first years of settlement. Improvements were not encouraged, while the pioneers generally rejected "book farming" as unimportant and useless, and knew little of the chemistry of agriculture. The farmer who ventured to make experiments, to stake out new paths of practice, or to adopt new modes of culture, subjected himself to the ridicule of the whole neighborhood. For many years the same methods of farming were observed; the son planted as many acres of corn or wheat as his father did, and in the same phases of the moon. All their practices were merely traditional; but within the last thirty years most remarkable changes have occurred in all the conditions of agriculture in this country.

The natural adaptation of the soil to grass, and the abundant supply of good water, early attracted the attention of many progressive farmers to the advantages of stock raising. Horses, cattle, sheep and hogs were brought into the county by the first settlers, though they were usually of an ordinary breed, and very little was done toward the improvement of stock for many years after the organization of the county. The advent of the Agricultural Society awakened an active and lasting interest in the growth and development of fine stock; and we now find in every township of the county some splendid specimens of Norman, Clydesdale and Hambletonian horses; Durham, Devon, Holstein and Jersey cattle; Merino and Cotswold sheep, and Poland-China, Berkshire and Chester White hogs. In fact nearly every live farmer takes pride in breeding and exhibiting a few good animals.

The swine of the early settlers, compared with those they now possess, present a very wide contrast, for whatever the breed may have been called, running wild, as was customary, the special breed was soon lost in the mixed swine of the country. They were long and slim, long-snouted and long-legged, with an arched back, and bristles erect from the back of the head to the tail, slab-sided, active and healthy; the "sapling-splitter" or "razor back," as he was called, was ever in search of food, and quick to take alarm. He was capable of making a heavy hog, but required two or three years to mature, and until a short time before butchering or marketing was suffered to run at large, subsisting mainly as a forager, and in the fall fattening on the "mast" of the forest. Yet this was the hog for a new country, whose nearest and best market was Detroit, to which point they were driven on foot. Almost every farmer raised a few hogs for market, which were gathered up by drovers and dealers during the fall and winter seasons. In no stock of the farm have greater changes been effected than in the hog. From the long-legged, long-snouted, slab-sided, roach-backed, tall, long, active, wild, fierce and muscular, it has been bred to be almost as square as a store box and quiet as a sheep, taking on 250 pounds of flesh in ten months.

In 1824 there were assessed by Wilson Vance, inside of Hancock County, 22 horses and 105 head of cattle over three years old. In 1829 there were returned for taxation 93 horses and 279 head of cattle. These were the beginnings of the present flourishing stock interests of the county, and the following table, compiled from the State reports, will serve to illustrate the growth and progress of this important feature of agriculture during the past thirty-three years:



Chs Cöterlen



	1852	1859	1867	1870	1875	1880	1884
Horses	4,116	9,073	9,635	9,313	10,523	10,533	9,774
Cattle	9,710	22,835	18,757	19,750	23,216	23,478	22 129
Hogs	9,502	28,995	35,311	28,299	34,121	43,677	38,192
Sheep	14,877	31,562	84,735	56,622	46,111	43,942	52,045

From the same source is gathered the following table of crop statistics since 1859, giving the number of bushels of each crop produced annually for six years selected from that period:

	1859	1866	1870	1875	1880	1884
Wheat	342,836	101,938	514,183	538,984	1,063,019	640,030
Corn	442,428	803,552	701,222	1,365,589	1,857,830	1,825,487
Oats	86,499	317,793	286,822	208,448	240,356	438,573
Buckwheat	16,299	21,378	1,336	2,152	1,152	614
Rye	7,627	6,344	5,536	2,725	1,378	3,614
Barley	5,862	8,254	2,868	3 644	3,250	2,442
Irish Potatoes	.....	29,922	80,763	193,030	92,617	133,781
Apples	.....	172,332	182,665	57,658	629,666	289,940

Though the several agricultural products of Hancock County have been usually successful, wheat and corn have always been its two greatest staples. The average annual wheat product of the county from 1869 to 1884, inclusive, was 14.86 bushels per acre, while the average corn yield for the same period was 34.92 bushels per acre. The total annual average wheat product of the county from 1878 to 1882, inclusive, was 877,458 bushels, ranking second in the Maumee Valley and sixth in the State, Seneca, Stark, Wayne, Darke and Pickaway being the only counties of Ohio during that period whose total annual average wheat yield exceeded that of Hancock. The county's total annual average corn crop for the same five years was 1,701,285 bushels, ranking seventeenth in that cereal and leading the remaining seventy-one counties of Ohio in the growth of corn. Truly this is a grand testimonial to the fertility of her soil and the intelligence of her farmers.

The Hancock County Agricultural Society has, no doubt, done more toward building up and developing the agricultural interests of the county than all other social agencies combined. The annual fairs held at Findlay during the past thirty-four years have created a friendly rivalry among agriculturists in the breeding of fine stock, and brought about the introduction of better machinery and more scientific modes of farming. The first active effort made to organize this society was through a call published in the *Hancock Courier* of August 21, 1851, and signed by Abner Evans, Henry Lamb, John Lafferty, Charles Eckels, Abner Leonard, C. O. Mann, Robert L. Strother, Alexander Phillips, William Taylor, A. H. Fairchild, C. Folk, D. J. Cory and John Strother, for a meeting to be held at the Court House on Saturday, August 30, 1851, for the purpose of forming a county agricultural society, and "to organize and transact business necessary to the furtherance of the plow." Pursuant to this notice a goodly number of citizens met on the day specified, and organized by appointing Aaron Hall, president, John Cooper and William Taylor, vice-presidents, and Robert Coulter, secretary of the meeting. Henry Brown then read, for the information of those interested, an "act for the encouragement of agriculture,"

passed March 12, 1841. It was afterward decided to hold the next meeting at the Court House on the first Saturday of October following, when permanent officers would be elected. A membership subscription paper was drafted and left with William Taylor for the procurement of names.

On the 4th of October, 1851, the embryo society met according to appointment, and organized by calling Robert L. Strother to the chair and appointing Henry Brown, secretary. A constitution previously prepared was read and adopted, and the following officers elected for the ensuing year: John Cooper, president; Robert L. Strother, vice-president; William Taylor, secretary; D. J. Cory, treasurer; Aaron Hall, John Dukes, William Yates, Henry Lamb, John Moore, John Lafferty and Alexander Phillips, managers. After the disposal of a few other matters the society adjourned until November 13, 1851. During this year the following members were obtained, each of whom paid $1, except D. J. Cory, who gave $10 toward the enterprise: Robert L. Strother, Henry Lamb, Alexander Phillips, William Taylor, John Cooper, David Dorsey, Jesse George, T. G. Pumre, Hiram Cox, John P. McNeaill, A. H. Fairchild, A. P. Byal, Jesse Ford, Paul Sours, Jonas Hartman, Edson Goit, William Yates, Aaron Hall, Robert Coulter, D. J. Cory, Peter George, Henry Davis, Samuel Spitler, Elijah Barnd, James Elsea, Ebenezer McIntire, James H. Barr, L. G. Flenner, William Mungen, Samuel Howard, Moses McAnelly, John Moore, Miles Wilson, Jr., E. P. Coons & Co., Charles Osterlen, Joshua Hartman, E. B. Vail, Thomas Buckley, A. H. Bigelow, Abner Leonard, Thomas H. Taylor, David Patton, John Dukes, John Lafferty, Henry Folk, Alonzo Pangburn, Eli Detwiler, John Johnston, Edwin Parker and Brown & Blackford.

The second election of officers took place at the Court House April 10, 1852, and resulted as follows: John Cooper, president; Robert L. Strother, vice-president; Henry Brown, secretary; D. J. Cory, treasurer; Aaron Hall, Moses McAnelly, Jonas Hartman, John Dukes and Alexander Phillips, managers. Under this management the society held its first fair October 15 and 16, 1852, on rented grounds west of Main Street in North Findlay, which were temporarily fitted up for the occasion. The secretary in his report says "the attendance was very large," and, doubtless, it was a very good fair, considering the circumstances under which it was given, but when he informs us that the total premiums awarded amounted to $99.12 we can then easily realize what wonderful progress the society has made since it gave its first fair. The same grounds in North Findlay were annually rented, and used up to and including the fair of 1858. The lack of permanent grounds and suitable buildings were the main drawbacks under which the society labored during those seven years. Nevertheless the fairs were usually successful, and at the close of the one of 1858 the society was out of debt and had about $100 in the treasury.

In January, 1859, the subject of securing permanent grounds began to be agitated. The officers chosen on the 15th of this month were Israel Green, president; A. P. Byal, vice-president; Samuel F. Gray, secretary; A. M. Hollabaugh, treasurer; A. W. Strother, Ezra Karm, William Vance, William Martin, Abner Leonard, Abel F. Parker, Aaron Hall, John Moore, Daniel Alspach and Daniel Fox, board of managers. On the 5th of February a meeting of the society was convened, and the president, secretary, treasurer, and board of managers were appointed a committee to view

sites and receive proposals for the purchase or lease of suitable grounds, and to report at the next meeting, February 9, 1859. On that date the committee reported the selection of a tract of eight acres lying on the Mount Blanchard road, in East Findlay, which was purchased of James H. Wilson for the sum of $800. Measures were soon afterward taken to fence and fit up the ground for the succeeding annual fair, which was held thereon October 5, 6 and 7, 1859. Nine annual exhibitions were held on these grounds, and the interest and attendance had so increased that the society felt justified in seeking a larger tract. In October, 1867, a committee was appointed to sell the old grounds, but nothing definite was then accomplished. In July, 1868, John Markel, A. W. Frederick and C. L. Turley were appointed a committee to dispose of the grounds, which were sold to Samuel Hoxter.

In May, 1868, a tract of twenty and one-half acres on the Bellefontaine road immediately south of Findlay, were purchased of Timothy L. Russell for $3,075. These grounds were fitted up and the first fair held upon them October 15, 16 and 17, 1868. This fair was reported as the most successful held by the society up to that time. Five acres bought of John Powell at a cost of $1,000 were added to the grounds on the south in August, 1871, and in August, 1882, seven and two-fifths acres adjoining the grounds on the west were purchased of A. P. Byal for the sum of $1,850. In May, 1884, the society bought a strip of half an acre running along the north part of the grounds for which they paid Francis Davis $200. The last addition made to the grounds was a tract of two acres on the west side and purchased of Morrison & Baker, in September, 1885, for the sum of $500. The grounds now contain thirty-five and two-fifths acres, which have cost the society $6,625. It is claimed by the secretary that about $4,000 have been expended in buildings and other improvements, making a total expenditure of over $10,000. About one-third of the grounds is covered by the original forest, and their location is perhaps the most beautiful that could have been selected in the Blanchard Valley. For many years the annual exhibitions of this society have been recognized as among the most successful in Northwestern Ohio, and its officers of the past and present deserve great credit for their indefatigable labors in building up an institution which every progressive citizen feels is an honor to Hancock County. The officers of the society for 1885 were as follows: Samuel D. Frey, president; James A. Vickers, vice-president; D. B. Beardsley, secretary; J. M. Vanhorn, treasurer; David Downing, Jasper Dukes, Josiah Fahl, Isaac N. Teatsorth, Calvin W. Brooks, Hiram Huffman, J. W. Marshall, John Cusac, James A. Vickers, Joseph Foreman, James Cox and Samuel D. Frey, managers.

CHAPTER V.

PUBLIC OFFICIALS—MEMBERS OF CONGRESS—STATE SENATORS—STATE REPRESENTATIVES—PRESIDENTIAL ELECTORS, AND MEMBERS OF CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTIONS—COMMISSIONERS—AUDITORS—TREASURERS—RECORDERS—CLERKS—SHERIFFS—SURVEYORS—CORONERS—PROBATE JUDGES—PUBLIC BUILDINGS—COURT HOUSES, JAILS AND INFIRMARY—POLITICAL STATISTICS.

MANY unforeseen obstacles were met with in the compilation of a reliable and authentic roster of public officials. Comparing the lists heretofore published with the records, it was soon discovered that, though most of the names are given, the dates of service are very erroneous, and reliance had to be almost solely placed on the musty, age-dimmed election returns stowed away in the clerk's office. The result derived from a careful inspection of these returns fully repaid the time expended, and the lists are here given with confidence that they are correct and beyond dispute. The roster of members of Congress, State senators and representatives begins with the erection of the county in 1820, while the balance of the lists date from its organization eight years later. The reader will therefore bear in mind that wherever Wood County appears as a part of the senatorial or legislative district, prior to 1828, it also includes Hancock, which was under the jurisdiction of Wood till March, 1828.*

Members of Congress.—Joseph Vance, of Champaign County, 1821 to 1835; Samson Mason, of Clark County, 1835 to 1843; Henry St. John, of Seneca County, 1843 to 1847; Rodolphus Dickinson, of Sandusky County, 1847, died in 1849; Amos E. Wood, of Sandusky County, *vice* Dickinson deceased, 1849, died in 1850; John Bell, of Sandusky County, 1850 to 1851; Alfred P. Edgerton, of Defiance County, 1851 to 1855; Richard Mott, of Lucas County, 1855 to 1859; James M. Ashley, of Lucas County, 1859 to 1863; Francis C. Le Blond, of Mercer County, 1863 to 1867; William Mungen, of Hancock County, 1867 to 1871; Charles N. Lamison, of Allen County, 1871 to 1873; Charles Foster, of Seneca County, 1873 to 1879; Frank H. Hurd, of Lucas County, 1879 to 1881; John B. Rice, of Sandusky County, 1881 to 1883; George E. Seney, of Seneca County, 1883 to 1887.

State Senators.—George Fithian, district Clark, Champaign Logan, and Wood, 1820-21; James Cooley, same district, 1821-23; George Fithian, same district, 1823-24; Robert Young, district Miami, Shelby, Logan and Wood, 1824-26; Daniel M. Workman, same district, 1826-28; David Campbell, district Hancock, Wood, Seneca, Sandusky and Huron, 1828-30; Samuel M. Lockwood, same district, 1830-32; Philip Lewis, district Hancock, Hardin, Logan, Union and Madison, 1832-34; Samuel Newell, same district, 1834-36; John E. Hunt, district Hancock, Wood, Henry and Lucas, 1836-37; Curtis Bates, district Hancock, Hardin, Wood, Lucas, Henry, Williams, Paulding, Putnam, Allen, Van Wert and Shelby, 1837-

*For Common Pleas, and Associate Judges, and Prosecuting Attorneys see Chapter VI.

39; John E. Hunt, same district, 1839–40; John Goodin, district Hancock, Wood, Seneca, Sandusky and Ottawa, 1840–42; Moses McAnelly, same district, 1842–44; Charles W. O'Neal, district Hancock, Wood, Lucas and Ottawa, 1844–46; Jesse Wheeler, same district, 1846–48; Joel W. Wilson, district Hancock, Seneca and Wyandot, 1848–50; Michael Brackley, same district, 1850–51. Under the constitution of 1851, the State was divided into fixed senatorial districts, and the counties of Hancock, Wood, Lucas, Fulton, Henry and Putnam, became the Thirty-third District. The senators since that time have been as follows: William Mungen, 1852–54; Samuel H. Steedman, 1854–56; William S. Lunt, 1856–58; Josiah N. Westcott, 1858–60; George Laskey, 1860–62; Charles M. Godfrey, 1862–64; James C. Hall, 1864–66; James C. Hall and Parlee Carlin, 1866–68; Abel M. Corey and James C. Hall, 1868. The latter died in 1868, and in December of that year Charles A. King was elected to fill vacancy, and with Mr. Corey served till 1870; Abel M. Corey, 1870–72; Dresam W. H. Howard and Hanks B. Gage, 1872–74; William A. Tressler and Emery D. Potter, 1874–76; T. P. Brown and Charles J. Swan, 1876–78; James B. Steedman and David Joy, 1878–80; John A. Wilkins, 1880–82; Joseph H. Brigham and Jonathan D. Norton, 1882–84; William H. McLyman and Orlando B. Ramey, 1884–86; Ezra S. Dodd and Herman C. Groschner, 1886–88.

State Representatives.—John Shelby, district Logan and Wood, 1820–28; Samuel M. Lockwood, district Hancock, Wood, Seneca and Sandusky, 1828–30; Josiah Hedges, same district, 1830–31; Harvey J. Harmon, same district, 1831–32; Samuel Newell, district Hancock, Hardin, Logan, Union and Madison, 1832–34; Nicholas Hathaway, same district, 1834–36; John Hollister, district Hancock, Wood, Lucas, Henry and Williams, 1836–37; Parlee Carlin, same district, 1837–38; William Taylor, same district, 1838–39; Moses McAnelly, same district, 1839–40; Amos E. Wood and Moses McAnelly, district Hancock, Wood, Seneca, Sandusky and Ottawa, 1840–41; Amos E. Wood and George W. Baird, same district, 1841–42; George W. Baird and Henry C. Brish, same district, 1842–43; William B. Craighill and Samuel Waggoner, same district, 1843–44; Elijah Huntington, district Hancock, Wood, Lucas and Ottawa, 1844–45; Lyman Parcher, same district, 1845–46; John McMahan, same district, 1846–47; Emery D. Potter, same district, 1847–48; Machias C. Whiteley, district Hancock and Wyandot, 1848–50; Henry Bishop, same district, 1850–51. Since the adoption of the constitution of 1851, Hancock County has formed a separate legislative district, and has been represented by the following citizens: Henry Bishop, 1852–54; John F. Perkey, 1854–56; Parlee Carlin, 1856–58; John Westcott, 1858–62; William Gribben, 1862–64; Gribben obtained certificate of re-election in 1863, but near the close of first session in 1864, the seat was given on contest to his opponent, Parlee Carlin, who served till 1866; Isaac Cusac, 1866–70; Aaron B. Shafer, 1870–72; Charles Osterlen, 1872–1874; William M. McKinley, 1874–76; Alexander Phillips, 1876, died in office, same year; Henry Sheets, 1877–80; William H. Wheeler, 1880–84; Absalom P. Byal, 1884–88.

Presidential Electors and Members of Constitutional Conventions.—John Dukes, of Blanchard Township, was the elector of this district on the Harrison and Tyler ticket in 1840; William Taylor of Findlay, was the Fremont and Dayton elector in 1856; and Jacob F. Burket, of Findlay, the Garfield and Arthur elector in 1880. These were the only citizens of Han-

cock County who ever filled that position in the district to which Hancock belonged. John Ewing, of Findlay, served in the Constitutional Convention of 1850; and Absalom P. Byal, of Findlay, in that of 1873.

Commissioners.—Godfrey Wolford, from April, 1828, to October, 1828; John Long, April, 1828, to October, 1828; John P. Hamilton, April, 1828, to October, 1828; John Long (re-elected), October, 1828, to December, 1829; Charles McKinnis, October, 1828, to December, 1830; John P. Hamilton (re-elected), October, 1828, to December, 1831; Mordecai Hammond, December, 1829, to December, 1832; Charles McKinnis (re-elected), December, 1830, to December, 1833; Robert L. Strother, December, 1831, to December, 1834; John Rose, December, 1832, to December, 1835; John Byal, December, 1833, to December, 1836; John L. Carson, December, 1834, resigned in December, 1835; William Taylor (of Findlay), December, 1835, to December, 1838; Darius Smith (to fill vacancy caused by Carson's resignation), December, 1835, to December, 1837; John Byal (re-elected), December, 1836, to December, 1839; Aquilla Gilbert, December, 1837, to December, 1840; Daniel Fairchild, December, 1838, to December, 1841; George Shaw, December, 1839, to December, 1842; Aquilla Gilbert (re-elected), December 1840, to December, 1843; Andrew Ricketts, December, 1841, to December, 1844; George Shaw, (re-elected), December, 1842, to December, 1845; Peter George, December, 1843, to December, 1846; John Lafferty, December, 1844, to December, 1847; William Taylor (of Findlay), December, 1845, to December, 1848; Peter George (re-elected), December, 1846, to December, 1849; William W. Hughes, December, 1847, to December, 1850; Thomas Kelley, December, 1848, to December, 1851; Elias Cole, December, 1849, to December, 1852; William W. Hughes (re-elected), December, 1850, to December, 1853; Thomas Kelley (re-elected), December, 1851, to December, 1854; Elias Cole (re-elected), December, 1852, to December, 1855; Jacob Bushong, December, 1853, to December, 1856; William Davis, December, 1851, to December, 1857; John McKinley, December, 1855, to December, 1858; Jacob Bushong (re-elected), December 1856, to December, 1859; John Graham, December, 1857, to December, 1860; John McKinley (re-elected), December, 1858, to December, 1861; Isaac Cusac, December, 1859; resigned late in 1861, or early the following year; John Graham (re-elected), December, 1860, to December, 1863; Conrad Line, December, 1861, to December, 1864; Jacob Bushong, appointed in February, 1862, to serve the unexpired term of Isaac Cusac up to December, 1862; John Cooper, December, 1862, to December, 1865; William Taylor (of Washington Township), December, 1863, to December, 1866; David W. Engle, December, 1864, to December, 1867; John Cooper (re-elected), December, 1865, to December, 1868; William Taylor (re-elected), December, 1866, to December, 1869; David W. Engle (re-elected), December, 1867, to December, 1870; William M. Marshall, December, 1868, to December, 1871; Samuel Creighton, December, 1869, to December, 1872; Joseph Saltzman, December, 1870, to December, 1873; William M. Marshall (re-elected), December, 1871, to December, 1874; John D. Bishop, December, 1872, to December, 1875; Joseph Saltzman (re-elected), December, 1873, resigned June 9, 1876; John Edgington, December, 1874, to December, 1877; John D. Bishop, December, 1875, to December, 1878; Ross W. Moore appointed June 9, 1876, to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of Joseph Saltzman, and elected as his own successor the following October, first regular term expiring in December, 1879; John Edgington (re-elected), December, 1877, to December,

1880; Louis Luneack, December, 1878, to December, 1881; Ross W. Moore (re-elected), December, 1879, to December, 1882; Bateman B. Powell, December, 1880, to December, 1883; Andrew S. Beck, December, 1881, to December, 1884; Charles S. Kelley, December, 1882, to December, 1885; J. M. Moorhead, December, 1883, to December, 1886; Andrew S. Beck (re-elected), December, 1884, to December, 1887; Charles S. Kelley (re-elected), December, 1885, to December, 1888.

Auditors.—Matthew Reighly, April, 1828, to October, 1828; William Hackney, October, 1828, to March, 1831; Thomas F. Johnston, March, 1831, resigned in June, 1832; Joseph C. Shannon, appointed to fill vacancy in June, 1832, and served till his death in May, 1836; Edson Goit, appointed May 23, 1836, to serve the unexpired term of Joseph C. Shannon, deceased, up to March, 1837; Charles W. O'Neal, March, 1837, to March, 1839; William L. Henderson, March, 1839, resigned September 29, 1842; James H. Barr, appointed to fill vacancy September 29, 1842, served to March, 1845; James S. Ballentine, March, 1845, to March, 1847; William Mungen, March, 1847, to March, 1851; Elijah Barnd, March, 1851, to March, 1855; Henry Brown, March, 1855, to March, 1857; Aaron Howard, March, 1857, to March, 1861; Henry Sheets, March, 1861, to March, 1865; Solomon Shafer, March, 1865, to March, 1869; John L. Hill, March, 1869, to November, 1873; George S. Mosher, November, 1873, to November, 1877; Joseph R. Kagy, November, 1877, to November, 1883; William T. Platt, November, 1883, to November, 1886.

Treasurers.—Joshua Hedges, April, 1828, to October, 1828; Edwin S. Jones, October, 1828, to June, 1831; Squire Carlin, June, 1831, to June, 1839; Edson Goit, June, 1839, to June, 1843; Levi Taylor, June, 1843, to June, 1845; Wilson Vance, June, 1845, to June, 1847; Mahlon Morris, June, 1847, died August 5, 1849; Levi Taylor, appointed to fill vacancy, August 8, 1849, to June, 1851; Samuel Howard, June, 1851, to June, 1855; Benjamin Huber, June, 1855, to June, 1857; William Vanlue, June, 1857, to September, 1861; Benjamin Huber, September, 1861, to September, 1863; Samuel Spitler, September, 1863, to September, 1867; Henry B. Wall, September, 1867, absconded in September, 1870; Henry Sheets, appointed September 7, 1870, to serve Wall's unexpired term up to September, 1871; Benjamin Huber, September, 1871, to September, 1875; Peter Hosler, September, 1875, to September, 1879; Samuel Howard, September, 1879, to September, 1883; William J. Creighton, September, 1883, to September, 1887.

Recorders.—Wilson Vance, June 3, 1828, resigned in June, 1835; Parlee Carlin, appointed June 1, 1835, served till October, 1835; Wilson Vance, October, 1835, to October, 1838; Jacob Barnd, October, 1838, to October, 1844; John Adams, October, 1844, to October, 1847; Paul Sours, October, 1847, to October, 1853; Isaac J. Baldwin, October, 1853, to January, 1860; Adam Steinman, January, 1860, to January, 1866; Luther B. Robinson, January, 1866, to January, 1872; Paul Kemerer, January, 1872, to January, 1878; Joseph F. Gutzwiller, January, 1878, to January, 1884; John B. Foltz, January, 1884, to January, 1887.

Clerks.—Wilson Vance, March 14, 1828, to March, 1835; William H. Baldwin, March, 1835, to October, 1842; William L. Henderson, October, 1842, resigned July 27, 1848; Absalom P. Byal, July 28, 1848, to February, 1855; William W. Siddall, February, 1855, to February, 1864; James Den-

nison, February, 1864, died in office January 26, 1870; Peter Pifer was elected in the fall of 1869, and upon the death of Mr. Dennison he was appointed to serve the few remaining days of the latter's second term. His own began in February, 1870, and he held the office till February, 1876; Scott W. Preble, February, 1876, to February, 1879; Henry H. Louthan, February, 1879, to February, 1885; Presley E. Hay, February, 1885, to Februrary, 1888.

Sheriffs.—Don Alonzo Hamlin, April, 1828, to November, 1828; John C. Wickham, November, 1828, to November, 1830; Joseph Johnson, November, 1830, to November, 1834; Christian Barnd, November, 1834, to November, 1838; Jacob Rosenberg, November, 1838, to November, 1842; Elisha Brown, November, 1842, to November, 1844; Alonzo D. Wing, November, 1844, to November, 1846; Absalom P. Byal, November, 1846, resigned July 27, 1848, and the Coroner, Hiram Williams was acting sheriff till the following November; Thomas Buckley, November, 1848, to November, 1852; James Robinson, November, 1852, to November, 1854; William W. Yates, November, 1854, died near the close of December, 1855, and D. D. McCahan, Coroner, was acting sheriff until November, 1856; James N. Neibling, November, 1856, to January, 1861; Cloys B. Wilson, January, 1861, to January, 1865; D. D. McCahan, January, 1865, resigned September 23, 1867, and the Coroner, Abraham Yerger, filled the office till January, 1869; Samuel Myers, January, 1869, to January, 1873; James L. Henry, January, 1873, to January, 1875; Samuel Myers, January, 1875, to January, 1877; Parlee C. Tritch, January, 1877, to January, 1881; Charles B. Hall, January, 1881, to January, 1885; Lemuel McManness, January, 1885, to January, 1887.

Surveyors.—William Taylor, November, 19, 1828, to April, 1832; William L. Henderson, April, 1832, to October, 1838; Joel Pendleton, October, 1838, to October, 1854; George W. Powell, October, 1854, to October, 1857; Joel Pendleton, October, 1857, to January, 1876; Edwin Phifer, January, 1876, to January, 1885; W. K. Stringfellow, January, 1885, to January, 1888.

Coroners.—Thomas Slight, April, 1828, to November, 1830; Joseph De Witt, November, 1830, to November, 1832; Thomas Slight, November, 1832, to November, 1834; Richard Watson, November, 1834, to November, 1835; Thomas Slight, November, 1835, to November, 1836; Peter Byal, November, 1836, to November, 1837; Henry Lamb, November, 1837, to November, 1839; Noah Wilson, November, 1839, to November, 1840; Joshua Hedges, November, 1840, to November, 1842; Allen McCahan, November, 1842, to November, 1844; Norman Chamberlin, November, 1844, died in 1845, and the sheriff, Alonzo D. Wing, served the unexpired term to November, 1846; Hiram Williams, November, 1846, to November, 1850; Harmon Warrell, November, 1850, to November, 1852; Garret D. Teatsorth, November, 1852, to November, 1854; D. D. McCahan, November, 1854, to November, 1856; Edwin Parker, November, 1856, to January, 1861; Parlee C. Tritch, January, 1861, to January, 1865; Abraham Yerger, January, 1865, to January, 1869; Parlee C. Tritch, January, 1869, to January, 1873; Frank J. Karst, January, 1873, to January, 1875; Daniel F. Cline, January, 1875, to January, 1877; Tobias G. Barnhill, January, 1877, to January, 1881; John C. Tritch, January, 1881, to January, 1885; Tobias B. Barnhill, January, 1885, to January, 1887.

Probate Judges.—James H. Barr, February, 1852, to February, 1855; Nathaniel E. Childs, February, 1855; to February, 1858; James H. Barr,



Benj. F. Huber



February, 1858, to February, 1861; Alfred W. Frederick, February, 1861, to February, 1867; Gamaliel C. Barnd, February, 1867, to February, 1873; Samuel B. Huffman, February, 1873, to February, 1879; Sylvester J. Siddall, February, 1879, to February, 1885; George W. Myers, February, 1885, to February, 1888.

Public Buildings.—On the 2d of February, 1824, the General Assembly passed an act appointing three commissioners to select a seat of justice for Hancock County, and the following October said commissioners reported to the Court of Common Pleas of Wood County, then in session at Perrysburg, that they had selected Findlay as the most suitable location for said county seat. Upon the organization of Hancock, in March, 1828, the old log school-house, erected the previous year on the site of the Indianapolis, Bloomington & Western Railroad depot, was utilized as a Court House, and all of the courts were held in that building until the completion of the first Court House in 1833.

A Jail, it seems, was the first public building erected by the county. At a meeting of the commissioners held July 26, 1830, plans for a Jail were considered, and it was ordered that said Jail be a one-storied building, 16x24 feet in size. It was built of hewed logs, and divided into two rooms by a partition through the center, one of which was the "debtors' prison," wherein those unfortunates unable to pay their debts had plenty of time to ponder over the inconvenience of honest poverty. There they remained without any hope of relief until Shylock relented or received his "pound of flesh." This was one of those obnoxious laws handed down from colonial days, and still existing in some of the States. The contract for the erection of this old Jail was let to Squire Carlin for $450, and called for "the timbers to be white oak twelve inches square." Mr. Carlin employed Henry Shaw to do the work, who, though not a carpenter, was sufficiently capable to put up such a building as specified. It stood about twenty feet south of the Court House recently torn down, between the latter and the fence, its west end being on a line with the rear of that structure. The citizens of Findlay did not look upon this rude log prison with much favor, and in December, 1830, a petition was presented to the commissioners praying for its removal from the public square, which the board refused to comply with. The building was never regarded as very safe, and any determined man could escape therefrom without much effort. It was therefore customary to guard the Jail whenever it contained a prisoner whom it was desired to hold safely, the guards to receive no pay in case the prisoner escaped. This old log structure was used as a Jail until burned down by a prisoner confined therein in the winter of 1851–52.

December 5, 1831, the commissioners took preliminary steps toward the erection of a "temporary Court House." The auditor was instructed to advertise for sealed proposals for erecting a two-storied frame building, 24x36 feet in size, said proposals to be handed into the auditor's office on or before January 14, 1832, the commissioners to meet on Monday, January 16, 1832, for the purpose of considering said proposals. On the latter date the contract was let to Wilson Vance, Frederick Henderson and Jonathan Parker, for the sum of $700, and March 16, 1833, the commissioners accepted the building as finished. The contract of Vance, Henderson & Parker did not include plastering, and this was let to Parlee Carlin, June 29, 1833, to be completed by November 1, following. This building stood on the southwest-corner of

Main and Crawford Streets, now the site of the First National Bank, and was used until the erection of the brick Court House, built by John McCurdy on the public square. It was sold, together with the lot upon which it stood, June 3, 1840, for $634, to Jacob Rosenberg, who fitted it up and opened the American House. He ran this hotel till his death in 1844, and his widow continued the business until her marriage to Jacob Carr. The latter changed its name to the Carr House, which he carried on till 1862, when he sold the lot and removed the building to its present site on Main Street, immediately north of the Presbyterian Church, and has since occupied it as a private residence.

In a few years the old frame became inadequate to the wants of the county, and the subject of a new Court House began to be agitated. On the 6th of June, 1837, the board of commissioners "Resolved that the commissioners of this county will borrow $10,000 for the purpose of erecting public buildings in Findlay." The auditor was ordered to give notice in the *Courier* that proposals would be received on the 4th of July, 1837, to furnish the county 200,000 good bricks to erect county buildings, and he was also instructed to furnish the board with a draft of a Court House. The contract was finally given to John McCurdy, an Irishman, who came to Findlay about this time. During the process of erection McCurdy fell from a scaffolding and had one of his legs badly shattered. The Court House was so far completed in the spring of 1840 that the officials took possession of their respective offices. But it seems from the records that it was more than two years afterward before the structure was accepted by the commissioners as finished. Considerable trouble arose between the board and the contractor, the former twice threatening to bring suit against McCurdy's bondsmen unless the building was completed according to contract. The case was finally settled by arbitration in June, 1843, McCurdy being ordered to pay the county $30 and costs. In December, 1847, the commissioners ordered this money, with interest, returned to McCurdy, a fair evidence that the latter was wronged by the board with whom he had the disagreement. When the Court House was first occupied the auditor, recorder, clerk, sheriff and commissioners' offices were located in the second story, and the treasurer's office on the first floor; but in December, 1842, the sheriff and treasurer exchanged offices. The court room always occupied the balance of the lower story. Upon the creation of the probate judgeship, that official was given an office in the second story, but in the spring of 1885 the probate judge removed to a room on Main Cross Street in the Karst Block, and the treasurer occupied the vacated office. The old Court House was sold to Richard Hennessey for $125, February 1, 1886, and soon afterward vacated and torn down to make room for a more elegant structure, the officials removing to the Glessner Block. It was a two-story brick building about 50x70 feet in size, surmounted by a wooden cupola, and cost about $11,000. A $250 bell, purchased by Frederick Henderson, by order of the commissioners, was hung in the belfry in the spring of 1846. Four round wooden pillars, upholding a slightly projecting gable, gave to the front a Grecian temple appearance. The conveniences of the building, however, were far behind the age, and it was high time it gave way to a better one.

As there has been considerable feeling lately manifested on the question of the ownership of the public square, and as one of the main arguments used by the advocates in favor of city ownership was based on the claim

that the city had fenced, graded and otherwise improved said square, it will not be inappropriate to briefly demonstrate from the commissioners' records that such improvements have always been ordered and paid for by the county. In December, 1841, the commissioners ordered a panel board fence, four and a half feet high, built around the public square. In the spring of 1845 the board ordered and paid for the grading of the square fronting Main Street; and in October, 1847, they authorized the town council of Findlay to improve the street and sidewalk in front of the Court House, for which the auditor was ordered to pay the city out of the county treasury. In June, 1856, the commissioners appropriated $400 for the purpose of fencing the public square, said money to be expended under the direction of the town council for said purpose only. Many similar items appear on record since the erection of the old Court House in 1840, up to the construction of the last fence and sidewalk, all of which were ordered and paid for by the county. The fact that some of the work was done under the supervision of the town officials, has, doubtless, led to the erroneous belief that the town paid for the improvements.

For many years before the burning of the old log Jail, it had become almost useless as a prison, and it was only a question of time and money when a better one would take its place. On the 3d of December, 1851, the auditor was instructed to advertise in the Findlay papers for sealed proposals for the erection of a new Jail of certain specified dimensions and finish, the contract to be let January 9, 1852. Thomas McCrary was the successful bidder, he to furnish all material, and complete said Jail within eighteen months from January 13, 1852, for the sum of $4,743. On the 10th of February, 1852, the commissioners purchased of Abraham W. Schwab, lot 58, on the west side of Monument Park, for the sum of $175, upon which the Jail was erected. It was finished according to contract, in the summer of 1853, and is a plain two-story brick building of very modest pretensions, yet a great improvement on its predecessor and was used as a Jail and sheriff's residence till the completion of the present handsome structure on Main Cross Street, immediatlely south of the old Jail, which was subsequently sold to Elizabeth K. Carlin for $1,200, and is now used as a boarding house.

Though the question of purchasing a County Farm came before the electors of the county in April, 1858, and the project was defeated, it was not till April 1, 1867, that the people of Hancock decided, by a majority of 1,508, that a home for God's poor should be purchased. Prior to that time the townships took care of their own poor, the county afterward reimbursing them, or the parties who incurred the expense. On the 4th of April, 1867, the commissioners advertised for a suitable Farm for county purposes, and on the 2d of May, following, 225 acres lying in Sections 10 and 15, Liberty Township, were purchased of George Heck, for $17,000. The Farm was at once opened as a County Infirmary, Mr. Heck being appointed its first superintendent. On the 5th of February, 1868, plans for an Infirmary building, prepared by Jesse Guise, were approved and accepted by the board, and the auditor ordered to advertise for sealed proposals for the erection of the same. The contract was let to John Shull, March 7, 1868, for the sum of $12,393, the building to be finished on or before the 1st of November following. It is an imposing four-storied brick structure, including basement, 40x75 feet in dimensions, and stands about two miles northwest of Findlay on the south bank of the Blanchard. A contract was

let to D. C. Fisher & Co., May 8, 1869, to erect a two-story brick building 22x40 feet in size close to the Infirmary, "for the use of insane persons." This building was completed the same fall, and cost $3,370.50. Outbuildings of different sorts have since been put up, and the property is now recognized as one of the best Infirmary Farms in Northwestern Ohio. For the past nineteen years, the unfortunate poor of the county have found here a healthy, comfortable home, while the institution has long been self-supporting.

The next public building erected by Hancock County, was the present elegant Jail on Main Cross Street. On the 24th of April, 1878, the Legislature passed "an act to authorize the board of county commissioners of Hancock County to levy a tax for the purpose of building a Jail." On the 4th of February, 1879, lots 29 and 30, with the buildings thereon, were purchased of B. F. Kimmons for $5,000, and, February 15, the plans of J. C. Johnson, the architect previously engaged to prepare a design for a Jail, were adopted, subject to changes suggested by the board. Mr. Johnson was, on the same date, appointed superintendent of construction. The old frame house and fence which stood on the site, were sold for $247, and removed therefrom. The contract was let April 10, 1879, to Jacob Karst, of Defiance, Ohio, for the sum of $17,264, the building to be finished on or before January 1, 1880. The Jail was completed according to contract, and accepted by the board on the 2d of January, 1880. Extras on the building amounted to $620, while the plans and architect's commissions came to $863.20, making a total for ground and building of $23,747.20. Mr. Karst was also paid $250 for filling lot, and sundry other work done around the Jail, which, however, was about offset by the amount received for the old fence and building that originally stood upon the lot. In May, 1880, contracts were given to the Champion Iron Fence Company, of Kenton, and M. Louthan & Co., of Findlay, respectively, for an iron fence and stone sidewalk, which ran the total expense to about $25,000; and the property is fully worth all it cost. The front portion of the Jail is an elegant, two-story brick edifice, with stone trimmings, and graced by a handsome square tower. In the rear of this is the jail proper, a solid, substantial, one-story wing, the cells being constructed of stone and iron in such a manner as to be regarded as invulnerable. The sheriff's residence will compare favorably with the finer private homes of the city, while the whole premises reflect great credit on the architect, builder and board of commissioners who conceived and carried out the project to a successful completion.

The General Assembly passed an act, April 17, 1885, authorizing the commissioners of Hancock County "to erect a Court House in said county, at a cost not to exceed $100,000;" and on the 7th of November the contract for the erection and enclosure of the new building was awarded to W. H. Campfield, of Lima, for the sum of $71,576, his work to be completed by November 1, 1887. This contract does not include the completion of the structure, the total cost of which is expected to exceed the amount authorized by the act to be expended in its erection. In the fall of 1885 ground was broken on the public square, and other preliminary work begun, but that's as far as the enterprise progressed till the spring of 1886. From the plans of the architects, Frank O. Weary and George W. Kramer, adopted by the building committee, is gathered the following description of the new Court House: The architecture, in the main, is classic, though the roof is pitched, and the an-

noyance and inconvenience of a flat roof avoided. The outside finish of the building will be entirely of stone, with rock face work, and highly trimmed with cut stone. The front windows are to be large and showy, the smallest having a five-foot and the largest a seven-foot opening. Each window has about forty-four square feet of glass or more, and ample light will be furnished in every part of the building. No wood whatever to be used in the construction of the edifice, so that it will be thoroughly fireproof. The tower will be 130 feet high from ground to top, and 107 feet to the center of the clock face. It is to be finished with a dome roof. The tower will be built entirely of iron, and will be twenty-four feet square. The edifice will be 142 feet long and 82 feet wide.

Entrance into the first floor hall from the front, on the east, will be through a stone portico supported by four polished granite columns twenty inches in diameter. This portico is designed as a protection for the first flight of steps so often left uncovered. This idea is peculiar to Mr. Weary's Court House plan and is a marked improvement over others. The portico, twelve feet high, is surmounted by an imposing entablature, extending up into the roof. In this is a window, 12x26 feet in size, opening out upon the balcony, having an archway top and extending through two stories. The whole effect of this is similar to the grand triumphal arch at Paris, built by Napoleon, and called Arc de Triomphe. Two small, easy flights of stairs, separated by a vestibule, lead through double doors into a spacious hallway running through the building, intercepted by a transverse hallway 18 feet wide and 75 feet long. In the center will be an octagon rotunda 20 feet square, with a gallery up through into the dome. To the right of the hall, near the entrance, a door opens into the treasurer's office for the reception of city taxes, and a door from that leads into the main office of the same official, where taxes will generally be received. Several spacious places of entrance will be provided, and the room will be 24 feet long by 28 feet wide, so that there will not be the inconvenience of a crowded doorway and a crowded room. Adjoining will be the money vault and the treasurer's private office, 13x15 feet in dimensions. This is about the size of all the private offices. Immediately adjoining this office to the west will be the auditor's apartments, consisting of three rooms. The main office will be 30x35 feet in size, and will have communication with the treasurer's office by means of a happily arranged sliding window. Besides the private office and deputy's work room, adjoining there will be a large fireproof record vault 13x28 feet in dimensions, and containing a window. To the south of and adjoining the auditor's vault and office will be the commissioners' room, 17x24 feet in size. On the left side at the front entrance will be the sheriff's office, 16x18 feet in dimensions. This is connected with the common pleas court room on the second floor by means of a private stairway. At the south end of the transverse hall will be the entrance to the probate court room, 24x30 feet in dimensions, which, like the auditor's office, is to be separated from the hall by a glass screen. Adjoining on the east side will be the probate judge's office, while in the southeast corner will be the deputy's work room and the record vault. A retiring room completes the probate judge's suite. The southwest portion of the first floor will be used by the recorder, who will have a private office and record vault, besides a spacious room in which to transact business with the public. This completes the description of the first floor.

The second floor may be reached by climbing a grand double iron staircase at the rear of the main hall. It is designed to have mahogany railings and a midway landing, and a large window will look out in the rear. In the southwest part of this floor, away from the din and noise of the street, will be the common pleas court room, in dimensions 35x40 feet. It will be furnished with amphitheater tiers of seats, and the general public may gain entrance through large double doors. Back of the bar railings will be several private entrances for officials and those having business with the court, so that they need not push their way through the crowds in the court room. The judge's bench will be in an archway in the partition dividing the court room from the judge's room and a room for the law library and for attorneys' consultation with clients. On this floor also will be conveniently located apartments for grand and petit juries and waiting witnesses. These will be handsomely furnished, and will have cloak and water closets attached. The clerk's desk in the court room is to be connected directly with the clerk's suite of three offices in the front part of the second floor. In the northeast corner the prosecuting attorney is to have a good-sized office and convenient consultation room. To the west of this and at the north end of the transverse hall there will be an office for the county school examiners. In the northwest corner a room of ample size has been set apart as a circuit court room, and immediately joining this on the south is a large room for the circuit judges. The county teachers' examinations will be held in the circuit court room. It is the design, we believe, to have an elevator for use from the basement to the first and second floors.

The basement will have a spacious assembly hall for conventions and public gatherings, with an ante-room and committee room. Besides this, there will be the surveyor's office, a public library room, reading, janitor's, boiler and work rooms, most conveniently arranged. Judging from the foregoing description it may be safely concluded that the new Court House, when completed, will not only be one of the most convenient, but also one of the finest public buildings in Northwestern Ohio. The progressive people of Hancock County can then feel a pardonable pride in their elegant Court House, Jail and Infirmary, as few counties of the State will be able to boast of their equals in design, solidity, finish and the many conveniences necessary in such institutions.

Political Statistics. - The political complexion of Hancock County, since its organization in 1828, can, it is conceded, be fairly illustrated by a comparison of the vote cast for the several gubernatorial candidates at each election during the past fifty-seven years. In the compilation of the following table the vote given at a few of the presidential contests has been added thereto, which will, perhaps, assist the reader in tracing the growth and changes of the different political parties in this county.

1828—Vote cast for governor: Allen Trimble (National Republican), 44; John W. Campbell (Democrat), 30. Total, 74.

1830—Vote cast for governor: Duncan McArthur (National Republican), 43; Robert Lucas (Democrat), 94. Total, 137.

1832—Vote cast for governor: Robert Lucas (Democrat), 260; Darius Lyman (Whig and Anti-Mason), 34. Total, 294.

1832—Vote cast for president: Andrew Jackson (Democrat), 181; Henry Clay (Whig), 85; William Wirt (Anti-Mason), 0. Total, 266.

1834—Vote cast for governor: Robert Lucas (Democrat), 371; James Findlay (Whig), 102. Total, 473.

1836—Vote cast for governor: Eli Baldwin (Democrat), 525; Joseph Vance (Whig), 376. Total, 901.

1836—Vote cast for president: Martin Van Buren (Democrat), 701; William Henry Harrison (Whig), 464. Total, 1,165.

1838—Vote cast for governor: Wilson Shannon (Democrat), 829; Joseph Vance (Whig), 505. Total, 1,334.

1840—Vote cast for governor: Wilson Shannon (Democrat), 1,024; Thomas Corwin (Whig), 642. Total, 1,666.

1842—Vote for governor: Wilson Shannon (Democrat), 986; Thomas Corwin (Whig), 616; Leicester King (Abolition or Free Soil), 4. Total, 1,606.

1844—Vote cast for governor: David Tod (Democrat), 1,214; Mordecai Bartley (Whig), 870; Leicester King (Abolition or Free Soil), 3. Total, 2,087.

1846—Vote cast for governor: David Tod (Democrat), 1,149; William Bebb (Whig), 751; Samuel Lewis (Abolition or Free Soil), 6. Total, 1,906.

1848—Vote cast for governor: John B. Weller (Democrat), 1,320; Seabury Ford (Whig), 868. Total, 2,188.

1850—Vote cast for governor: Reuben Wood (Democrat), 1,299; William Johnston (Whig), 707; Edward Smith (Abolition or Free Soil) 0. Total, 2,006.

1851—Vote cast for governor: Reuben Wood (Democrat), 1,417; Samuel F. Vinton (Whig), 742; Samuel Lewis (Abolition or Free Soil), 7. Total, 2,166.

1853—Vote cast for governor: William Medill (Democrat), 1,664; Nelson Barrere (Whig), 576; Samuel Lewis (Abolition or Free Soil), 55. Total, 2,295.

1855—Vote cast for governor: William Medill (Democrat), 1,329; Salmon P. Chase (Republican), 1,238; Allen Trimble (American or Know-nothing), 30. Total, 2,597.

1857—Vote cast for governor: Henry B. Payne (Democrat), 1,868; Salmon P. Chase (Republican), 1,611; Philip Van Trump (American or Know-nothing), 8. Total, 3,487.

1859—Vote cast for governor: Rufus P. Ranney (Democrat), 1,796; William Dennison (Republican), 1,674; total, 3,470.

1860—Vote cast for president: Stephen A. Douglas (Regular Democrat), 2,301; Abraham Lincoln (Republican), 2,135; John C. Breckinridge (Bolting Democrat), 24; John Bell (American or Union), 16; total, 4,476.

1861—Vote cast for governor: Hugh J. Jewett (Democrat), 1,817; David Tod (Republican), 1,772. Total, 3,589.

1863—Vote cast for governor: Clement L. Vallandigham (Democrat), 2,277; John Brough (Republican), 2,296. Total, 4,573.

1865—Vote cast for governor: George W. Morgan (Democrat), 2,228; Jacob D. Cox (Republican), 2,120. Total, 4,348.

1867—Vote cast for governor: Allen G. Thurman (Democrat), 2,509; Rutherford B. Hayes (Republican), 2,172. Total, 4,681.

1868—Vote cast for president: Horatio Seymour (Democrat), 2,528; Ulysses S. Grant (Republican), 2,279. Total, 4,807.

1869—Vote cast for governor: George H. Pendleton (Democrat), 2,483; Rutherford B. Hayes (Republican), 1,946. Total, 4,429.

1871—Vote cast for governor: George W. McCook (Democrat), 2,401;

Edward F. Noyes (Republican), 2,218; Gideon T. Stewart (Prohibition), 0. Total, 4,619.

1872—Vote cast for president: Horace Greeley (Liberal Republican and Democrat), 2,449; Ulysses S. Grant (Republican), 2,311; James Black (Greenback), 3; Charles O'Connor (Independent Democrat), 0. Total, 4,763.

1873—Vote cast for governor: William Allen (Democrat), 2,259; Edward F. Noyes (Republican), 1,794; Gideon T. Stewart (Prohibition), 39; Isaac Collins (Liberal Republican), 53. Total, 4,145.

1875—Vote cast for governor: William Allen (Democrat), 2,833; Rutherford B. Hayes (Republican), 2,559; Jay Odell (Prohibition), not given in State report. Total vote, 5,457.

1876—Vote cast for president: Samuel J. Tilden (Democrat), 3,215; Rutherford B. Hayes (Republican), 2,811; G. Clay Smith (Prohibition), 8; Peter Cooper (Greenback), 4. Total, 6,038.

1877—Vote cast for governor: Richard M. Bishop (Democrat), 2,854; William H. West (Republican), 2,366; Henry A. Thompson (Prohibition), 39; Stephen Johnson (Greenback), 14. Total, 5,273.

1879—Vote cast for governor: Thomas Ewing (Democrat), 3,308; Charles Foster (Republican), 2,911; Gideon T. Stewart (Prohibition), 13; A. Sanders Piatt (Greenback), 47. Total, 6,279.

1880—Vote cast for president: Winfield S. Hancock (Democrat), 3,350; James A. Garfield (Republican), 3,124; James B. Weaver (Greenback), 33; Neal Dow (Prohibition), 9. Total, 6,516.

1881—Vote cast for governor: John W. Bookwalter (Democrat), 2,985; Charles Foster (Republican), 2,716; Abraham R. Ludlow (Prohibition), 197; John Seitz (Greenback), 29. Total, 5,927.

1883—Vote cast for governor: George Hoadly (Democrat), 3,524; Joseph B. Foraker (Republican), 3,098; Ferdinand Schumacher (Prohibition), 42; Charles Jenkins (Greenback), 28. Total, 6,692.

1884—Vote cast for president: Grover Cleveland (Democrat), 3,497; James G. Blaine (Republican), 3,245; Benjamin F. Butler (Greenback Labor Reform), 32; John P. St. John (Prohibition), 84. Total, 6,858.

1885—Vote cast for governor: George Hoadly (Democrat), 3,283; Joseph B. Foraker (Republican), 2,800; Adna B. Leonard (Prohibition), 388; John W. Northrop (Greenback Labor Reform), 24. Total, 6,495.

The county has been carried by the Democratic party at every presidential and gubernatorial election since its organization, except those for governor in 1828 and 1863. It will thus be seen that Hancock County has always been a stronghold of Democracy, though the majorities given for the candidates of that party have often been quite small.





CHAPTER VI.

THE JUDICIARY—ORGANIZATION OF THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS IN OHIO AND ITS SUBSEQUENT CHANGES—PIONEER COURTS OF HANCOCK COUNTY—SESSIONS HELD AT FINDLAY IN 1828, 1829 AND 1830—THE JURIES IMPANELED AND PRINCIPAL BUSINESS TRANSACTED DURING THOSE YEARS—ITEMS OF INTEREST GATHERED FROM THE COURT JOURNALS—THE BENCH AND BAR—COMMON PLEAS JUDGES—ASSOCIATE JUDGES—PROSECUTING ATTORNEYS—PIONEER VISITING LAWYERS—REMINISCENCES OF PIONEER PRACTICE IN NORTHWESTERN OHIO—INCIDENTS OF THE CIRCUIT RIDING PERIOD—FIRST LAWYERS WHO LOCATED IN FINDLAY—BRIEF SKETCHES OF RESIDENT ATTORNEYS WHO PRACTICED IN HANCOCK COUNTY PRIOR TO 1860—PRESENT BAR OF THE COUNTY.

AS people often fail to agree respecting their rights and duties, and as they sometimes violate their agreements, and even disobey those rules and regulations prescribed for their conduct, it is necessary that tribunals should be provided to administer justice, to determine and declare the rights of disagreeing parties, to investigate and decide whether the laws are observed or violated, and to pronounce judgment according to law and the just deserts of the citizen. These determinations are called judicial. Upon the organization of the Northwest Territory, courts were established and laws promulgated for its proper government. The court of common pleas was one of the first to take shape, being established by the governor and the three district judges of the Territory, August 23, 1788. This court was first composed of not less than three nor more than five justices, appointed by the governor in each county, and known as the "County Court of Common Pleas;" but in 1790, the number of justices was increased to not less than three, and not more than seven in each county. The regular sessions of this court were, by the same act, increased from two to four terms annually. When Ohio was admitted into the Union, its judiciary was reorganized. The State was divided into circuits, for each of which a judge, who had to be a lawyer in good standing, was elected by the General Assembly for the term of seven years. Three associate judges were chosen in each county by the same body, and for the same length of service, who were intelligent citizens, usually farmers or business men, many of whom, however, knew very little about law. The president judge, with the associates, composed the court of common pleas of each county, and thus this court remained until the re-organization of the judiciary under the constitution of 1851. That instrument provided for the division of the State into judicial districts, and each district into subdivisions. It abolished the office of associate judge, and directed that in each subdivision one judge of the court of common pleas, who had to be a resident thereof, should be elected every five years by the qualified electors in said subdivision, but the General Assembly reserved the power to increase the number of judges, and change the territory composing each subdivision whenever such a course became necessary.

Prior to the organization of Hancock County, all of its judicial business, excepting that transacted by its justices of the peace, was done at the county

seat of Wood County, to which Hancock was attached until March 1, 1828. Hon. Ebenezer Lane was then the president judge of this circuit, and the same Legislature that passed the act organizing this county also elected Abraham Huff, Robert McKinnis and Ebenezer Wilson, associate judges of said county. The first meeting of the court of common pleas of Hancock County was held, March 14, 1828, in the old log schoolhouse erected the previous year, near the site of the Indianapolis, Bloomington & Western Railroad depot. The three associates were present and composed the court, its only business being the appointment of Wilson Vance as clerk *pro tem.* of said court.

The first regular term of court was opened in the same building, which was used until the erection of the first Court House, June 3, 1828, Hons. Abraham Huff, Robert McKinnis and Ebenezer Wilson on the bench; Don Alonzo Hamlin, sheriff; Wilson Vance, clerk; and Anthony Casad, of Bellefontaine, prosecuting attorney. The session lasted only a part of one day. Elijah T. Davis was appointed administrator of the estate of Thomas Wilson, deceased, with Joshua Hedges and Squire Carlin as securities in the sum of $400. Joshua Hedges, Jacob Poe and Charles McKinnis were appointed appraisers of said estate. Mr. Wilson was a pioneer of Liberty Township, and a brother of Judge Wilson, then upon the bench. The citizens of the newly erected townships of Amanda and Welfare (now Delaware), were ordered to elect a justice of the peace for their respective townships. The court then appointed Wilson Vance recorder of Hancock County for the term of seven years, after which it adjourned.

The second term began November 19, 1828, the same judges and officers forming the *personnel* of the court as in the previous sessions. The following grand jury was impaneled: Joseph DeWitt, John P. Hamilton, Jacob Poe, Asa Lake, Charles McKinnis, Reuben Hale, Mordecai Hammond, William Wade, John Boyd, Henry George, William Moreland, James McKinnis, William Taylor, Edwin S. Jones and John C. Wickham. The court appointed William Taylor foreman of the panel. A *venire* for a petit jury was also returned by the sheriff at this session, but only eight of the panel answered to their names, viz.: John Beard, Joseph Johnson, John Huff, William Moreland, Jr., John Tullis, John J. Hendricks, Thomas Thompson and James Peltier; and it appearing that there was no business for a petit jury at this term the jurors present were discharged from further attendance. Rachel Wilson, widow of Thomas Wilson, was appointed guardian of her two children, Rebecca and Jane, with Charles McKinnis and Jacob Poe as sureties in the sum of $800. The grand jury finding no business to transact was dismissed by the court. A license to "vend merchandise" at his residence in Findlay until April 1, 1829, was granted to William Taylor upon the payment of $2.25. The same gentleman was appointed surveyor of Hancock County, and William Hackney, William Taylor and Mordecai Hammond examiners of common schools. As an illustration of the remuneration county officers then received for their services, the following items from the minutes of this term of court will suffice: "Ordered by the court that there be allowed to the sheriff of this county for extra services the sum of $15, to be paid one-half at each term of this court. Ordered by the court that there be allowed to Don Alonzo Hamlin the sum of $10 for his extra services as sheriff of this county for the present year. Ordered by the court that there be allowed to the clerk of this

court the sum of $10 each year, to be paid one-half at each term of this court." This closed the business of the second regular session.

A special term of court was commenced March 19, 1829, for the purpose of granting letters of administration on the estate of John Patterson (deceased), a brother of Mrs. William Taylor; all of the associates were on the bench, and William Taylor was appointed administrator of said estate, with Job Chamberlin and John Boyd as sureties in the sum of $1,400; Squire Carlin, William Hackney and Joshua Hedges were appointed by the court to appraise the property.

The next session began April 24, 1829, and lasted two days. The same judges and officers of the preceding terms were present except the sheriff; John C. Wickham having been chosen to succeed Don Alonzo Hamlin, at the previous October election. The following grand jurors were impaneled at this term: Robert Long, Amos Beard, Thomas Cole, John Shoemaker, Reuben W. Hamlin, Samuel Sager, William J. Greer, Robert Elder, John Hunter, Isaac Johnson, Nathan Frakes, Reuben Hale, Jacob Foster, William Moreland, Jr., and Nathan Williams. William J. Greer was appointed foreman. The only indictment found at this term was against Thomas Slight, charging him with petit larceny. William Taylor was granted a license for one year to keep a tavern at his house in Findlay, for which he was charged $5. The court appointed Anthony Casad, prosecutor for one year, and agreed to pay him the sum of $40 for his services. What would our present prosecuting attorneys think of such a salary? On the second day of the session, the following petit jury was impaneled: Van R. Hancock, Joshua Hedges, John Elder, Selden Blodget, Sampson Dildine, James McKinnis, William De Witt, Josiah Elder, Thomas F. Johnston, Asa M. Lake, Asa Lake and Matthew Reighly. Thomas Slight was tried by this jury, and found guilty of petit larceny as charged in the indictment. His counsel made a motion for a new trial, which was granted by the court. Bleuford Hamilton and Eli Powell were the principal prosecuting witnesses. In April, 1830, the case against Mr. Slight was dismissed by the court at the request of the prosecuting attorney, who claimed there was not sufficient evidence to sustain the charge. This closed the business of the term, and "the court adjourned without day."

On the 7th of November, 1829, the fourth regular term of the common pleas was held at Findlay, with the same judges and officers as the previous term. The grand jurors of this session were William Moreland, Jr., George Flenner, Squire Carlin, Asa Lake, Jacob Foster, John Bashore, John Hunter, Edwin S. Jones, John Boyd, Don Alonzo Hamlin, Asher Wickham, Joshua Powell, Isaac Johnson, Joseph A. Sargent and Bass Rawson. This jury returned bills of indictment against Charles, Philip and James McKinnis for assault and battery, after which it was discharged. Letters of administration were granted to Sarah Beard and John J. Hancock on the estate of John Beard, deceased, of Amanda Township, John P. Hamilton and Thomas F. Johnston being sureties in the sum of $300. Andrew Robb, David Egbert and Thomas Cole were appointed appraisers of said property. The assault and battery cases of Charles and Philip McKinnis were continued till the next term of court; but that against their brother James was at once tried before the following jury: Andrew Robb, Warren Hancock, Peter George, Minor T. Wickham, Simeon Ransbottom, John Long, John J. Hendricks, Mordecai Hammond, Van R. Hancock, William De Witt, Job Cham-

berlin and Thomas Slight. The jury failed to agree, and the case was then continued. The case in debt of Henry McWhorter *vs.* Samuel Sargent and Abraham Huff; the larceny suit of the State of Ohio *vs.* Thomas Slight; and the petition to sell land of William Taylor, administrator of the estate of John Patterson, deceased, *vs.* Eliza Patterson and heirs, were all continued until the succeeding term of court.

The next term was opened April 30, 1830, with Hon. Ebenezer Lane, president judge, and Robert McKinnis and Ebenezer Wilson, associate judges, on the bench. This was the first session of court held in Hancock County at which the president judge was present. The following grand jury was impaneled: Adam Woodruff, Joseph Johnson, Alfred Hampton, George Shaw, Joseph A. Sargent, Mordecai Hammond, Charles McKinnis, Simeon Ransbottom, Sampson Dildine, John George Flenner, Edwin S. Jones, Peter George, William J. Greer, Jacob Baker and John J. Hendricks. Mordecai Hammond was appointed foreman of the jury, and Amos Beard, Nathan Williams, James Gibson, Reuben W. Hamlin and Peter Shaw, who had been summoned with the other jurors, were designated as talesmen. The pending petition to sell land of William Taylor, administrator of John Patterson, was granted at this term. The will of John Wolford, deceased, of Delaware Township, was admitted to probate, and Absalom W. Wolford, who was named in said will as executor thereof, recognized as such by the court. Letters of administration were granted to Elizabeth Miller and William McCloud, on the estate of Isaac Miller, deceased, whose cabin stood near the site of Van Buren. John P. Hamilton and Nathan Frakes were sureties for the administrators in the sum of $600; and William Taylor, Squire Carlin and Jacob Foster appraisers of said estate.

The two damage suits of John P. Hamilton against Charles and Philip McKinnis, for assault and battery (which trouble resulted from the erection of Old Town Township, and is fully spoken of in the chapter on Liberty Township) were tried at this session. That of Charles came before the following jury: Jacob Elder, Don Alonzo Hamlin, Robert L. Strother, Joseph Egbert, Joshua Powell, Nathan Williams, William J. Greer, John J. Hendricks, Mordecai Hammond, Peter George, Thomas Thompson and William Moreland, who found the defendant guilty, and assessed the damages at $75 and plaintiff's costs of suit. The trial of his brother Philip came next, the following citizens composing the jury: Jacob Baker, Alfred Hampton, Thomas Slight, Absalom W. Wolford, Willis Ward, James Gibson, John Shoemaker, Matthew Reighly, H. B. Strother, Aquilla Gilbert, Joseph Johnson and Reuben W. Hamlin. He, too, was found guilty as charged, and the damages fixed at $30 and costs. When these suits were decided the indictment of the State still remained against the McKinnis brothers. Both pleaded guilty of assault and battery, asked for "the mercy of the court," and were each fined $1 and cost of prosecution. Thus ended one of the most prominent pioneer events in the annals of the courts of Hancock County, the circumstances connected therewith being yet vividly remembered by many surviving early settlers.

Squire Carlin was then carrying on a general store on the corner where he still resides, and was granted a grocery license at this term for one year, upon paying into the county treasury the sum of $10. An election was ordered to be held at the house of Aquilla Gilbert, in Jackson Township, on the last Saturday in June, 1830, for the purpose of electing two justices of

the peace. The will of Eli Sargent, deceased, was admitted to probate, and Nancy Sargent recognized as executrix thereof. The case of Henry McWhorter *vs.* Samuel Sargent and Abraham Huff, was decided in favor of the plaintiff, who recovered $237.83, the amount of the debt, and damages assessed at one cent. The suit of Joshua Hedges and others *vs.* the Commissioners of Hancock County, brought to set aside the proceedings of that board in the erection of Old Town Township, was continued, and the court ordered an election for one justice of the peace for said township, to be held at the house of Ebenezer Wilson, on the last Saturday of June, 1830.

The three associate judges held a special term of court, October 2, 1830, when the will of Andrew Robb, a pioneer of Amanda Township, was admitted to probate, and letters of administration granted to his widow, Margaret Robb, and Aquilla Gilbert, the latter of whom is yet a resident of that township.

The last term of the pioneer courts of which any special cognizance will be taken in this chapter, was held November 1, 1830, with Judge Lane and the three associates—Huff, McKinnis and Wilson being on the "woolsack." The grand jurors of this session were as follows: William Hackney, John Dukes, John Fishel, Philip McKinnis, William Wolford, John Rose, Richard Dukes, Minor T. Wickham, Godfrey Wolford, Jacob Foster, William L. Henderson, Alfred Purcell, James McKinnis, Selden Blodget and Joseph Johnson. This jury indicted Nathan Frakes, one of the early-time "bruisers," for assault and battery on Henry Shaw, a pioneer of Findlay, but the prosecuting witness not appearing in court when the case was called the indictment was quashed. The suit against the commissioners by Joshua Hedges and others was decided at this sitting, the proceedings of the board in the erection and organization of Old Town Township being reversed and annulled. A grocery license for one year was granted to John Bashore, upon the payment of $10. These licenses were granted annually, and always included the sale of whisky—one of the principal commodities of pioneer groceries and taverns, and without the sale of which few of their proprietors could have accumulated the handsome competencies left at their decease. William Taylor, William L. Henderson, Bass Rawson, Thomas F. Johnston and Robert L. Strother were appointed examiners of common schools for the term of two years. The court then ordered that the sheriff and clerk be allowed the sum of $10 each per annum, for extra services, to be paid half yearly, after which the session was "adjourned without day." The first three years of the journal of the court of common pleas of Hancock County have now been run through, giving the court items and lists of grand and petit jurors at each term. The only importance attached thereto is because these events belong to pioneer days—that period about which so much genuine interest centers. The principal reason for giving the names of the jurors is that they were pioneers—a part of the brave vanguard who laid the foundation of the county's present prosperity—and to perpetuate a record of the men who figured in the first judicial affairs of the county.

The first judge of the court of common pleas in this circuit, after the organization of Hancock County, was Hon. Ebenezer Lane, who served up to the close of 1830. His successors under the old constitution have been as follows: David Higgins, 1831–37; Ozias Bowen, 1838; Emery D. Potter, 1839–42; Myron H. Tilden, 1843–44; Patrick G. Goode, 1845–51. Since

the adoption of the constitution of 1851, the common pleas judges of the subdivision to which Hancock County belonged have been as follows: Lawrence W. Hall, February, 1852, to February, 1857; Machias C. Whiteley, February, 1857, to February, 1867; George E. Seney (additional judge), February, 1858, to February, 1863; Chester R. Mott, February, 1867, to February, 1872; James Pillars (additional judge), May, 1868, to May, 1878; Abner M. Jackson (additional judge), February, 1872, resigned in the summer of 1874, and Thomas Beer, appointed August 15, 1874, and elected in October, 1874, to serve the unexpired term of Judge Jackson up to February, 1877 (Judge Beer was re-elected in October, 1876, for a full term, but the subdivision was soon afterward changed, Crawford County, wherein he lived, becoming a part of another subdivision); Henry H. Dodge, May, 1878, second term expires in May, 1888; John McCauley (additional judge), February, 1880, resigned in April, 1883, to accept an appointment on the supreme court commission, and Luther M. Strong appointed to fill vacancy until the following October election, when George F. Pendleton was chosen to serve the unexpired term of Judge McCauley, up to February, 1885. Judge Pendleton was re-elected as his own successor in October, 1884, and began his regular term in February, 1885, which expires in February, 1890. Judges Dodge and Pendleton are now the judges of this subdivision.

The associate judges of Hancock County from its organization up to the abolition of the office were as follows: Abraham Huff, March, 1828, to March, 1835; Robert McKinnis, March, 1828, to March, 1835; Ebenezer Wilson, March, 1828, to March, 1842; Robert L. Strother, March, 1835, to March, 1842; John W. Baldwin, March, 1835, resigned in July, 1835; Major Bright, appointed in August, 1835, served till March, 1836; William Roller, March, 1836, to March, 1849; John Ewing, March, 1842, to March, 1849; Michael Price, March, 1849, to March, 1851; John Cooper, March, 1849, to March, 1852; Gamaliel C. Barnd, March, 1849, to March, 1852; Levi Sampson, March, 1851, to March, 1852.

The prosecuting attorneys since the organization of the county have been as follows: Anthony Casad, of Bellefontaine, June, 1828, resigned in September, 1832; Edson Goit, appointed in September, 1832, served till May, 1836; Arnold F. Merriam, appointed in June, 1836, resigned April 4, 1837; Edson Goit, appointed April 4, 1837, resigned October 2, 1838; Jacob Barnd, appointed October 2, 1838, served till January, 1839; Jude Hall, January, 1839, to January, 1843; Abel F. Parker, January, 1843, to January, 1845; William M. Patterson, January, 1845, to January, 1847; Abel F. Parker, January, 1847, resigned April 5, 1849, while serving his third term; John E. Rosette, appointed April 5, 1849, and served by election to January, 1854; William Gribben, January, 1854, to January, 1858; Edson Goit, January, 1858, to January, 1862; James A. Bope, January, 1862, went into the army and resigned in October, 1862; Henry Brown, appointed November 10, 1862, served by election to January, 1868; William H. Anderson, January, 1868, to January, 1872; George F. Pendleton, January, 1872, to January, 1876; Henry Brown, January, 1876, to January, 1880; Aaron B. Shafer, January, 1880, to January, 1885; Henry Brown, January, 1885, term expires in January, 1888.

The first visiting lawyers who practiced at this bar were Anthony Casad, of Bellefontaine, Andrew Coffinberry, of Mansfield, and afterward of Perrysburg, Rodolphus Dickinson, of Lower Sandusky (now Fremont), James

H. Godman, of Marion; Curtis Bates, of Maumee City and Defiance; Abel Rawson, of Tiffin; and John M. May, of Mansfield and Maumee City. Most of these attorneys attended court at Findlay before the village possessed a single member of the profession, and for years afterward some of them were retained in nearly every important case. Those early practitioners were generally men of marked ability in their profession, and belonged to that sound and thorough class of thinkers who have done so much to build up the jurisprudence of the State, and who, by reason of the limited facilities afforded by reports and precedents, were compelled to search out by their own thinking and investigation the true principles of the law. In the course of time, as the county advanced in population and wealth, the local practice of these itinerants fell into the possession of the few resident attorneys who had located in Findlay, and the visits of the circuit-riding lawyers became less frequent, as they only appeared occasionally in some important lawsuit.

As the race of hardy, adventurous, circuit-riding lawyers who organized the courts of Northwestern Ohio have passed away forever, it may be interesting to the younger members of the bar to contrast the hardships and perils of the past with the ease and security of the present. Fifty-five years ago Judge David Higgins held his first term of court in Findlay. Rain fell in torrents for several successive days. The bridgeless streams swelled over their banks, and it became impossible to proceed overland to Defiance to hold court at the appointed time. But the indomitable Judge Higgins, and the hard-headed old stagers who traveled his judicial district, were equal to the occasion. They hired a man to take their horses through the Black Swamp to Perrysburg, purchased a pirogue, which they appropriately named the "Jurisprudence," freighted it with their saddles, bridles and baggage, and floated down the Blanchard and Auglaize Rivers to Defiance, where they held the term, then re-embarked and floated down the Maumee to Perrysburg. From an account of the trip written by Judge Higgins in 1872, for Knapp's "History of the Maumee Valley," we take the following extract: "Our company consisted of Rodolphus Dickinson, John C. Spink, Count Coffinberry, myself and a countryman whose name I forget. The voyage was a dismal one to Defiance, through an unsettled wilderness of some sixty miles. Its loneliness was only broken by the intervening Indian settlement at Ottawa village, where we were hailed and cheered lustily by the 'Tawa Indians, as would be a foreign war-ship in the port of New York. From Defiance we descended the Maumee to Perrysburg, where we found all well. In descending the Maumee, we came near running into the rapids, where we should probably have been swamped had we not been hailed from the shore and warned of our danger."

In a letter to the writer, Hon. James M. Coffinberry, of Cleveland, gives the following reminiscences of pioneer law practice in Northwestern Ohio: "In May, 1840," says Judge Coffinberry, "Judge Potter held his first term for Putnam County. The Judge, with two or three lawyers, came into Kalida, the then county seat, from Defiance, where he had been holding court. One or two lawyers came over from Lima and two from Findlay. One of the Findlay attorneys, John H. Morrisson, a slender, one-armed man, combining the physical strength of a girl with the energy of a buzz-saw, was mounted on an unbroken three-year-old colt, having left his own horse disabled by the way. The other, Edson Goit, put in an ap-

pearance on foot, carrying his saddle on his shoulders, his horse having broken a leg in a floating corduroy bridge near the village. Every man had been compelled to swim one or more streams to reach the county seat, and all were thoroughly saturated with water and covered with mud. The only hotel—a good one for the time and place—was adequate for the accommodation of all who came. His honor, with three of the brethren of his choice, had one little room to themselves. The rest of us lawyers, grand and petit jurors, suitors, witnesses and spectators, slept well on the rude beds which covered the floors. The table groaned with its weight of wild turkey, venison, mutton, fish, wild honey and butter. Everybody washed in what was called 'the county wash-bowl,' and dried on the 'county towel.' A barrel of new corn whisky on tap stood invitingly in one corner of the dining-room, with a tin cup under the faucet, so that whosoever would could drink without money and without price. And yet complaints were made of the exorbitant charge of $1 per day for all this luxury, the care and feed of our horses included."

Edson Goit was the first resident lawyer of Findlay. He was a native of Oswego Co., N. Y., born October 17, 1808. When Edson was quite small his father died, but, through improving every opportunity during his boyhood years, he managed to obtain a fair education, and taught school ere reaching his majority. In 1827 he left his early home and traveled across Ohio until arriving at the village of Fremont. Here he halted, and subsequently taught school in Fremont and Tiffin. During this period Mr. Goit read law under Rodolphus Dickinson, of Fremont, and Abel Rawson, of Tiffin, and July 12, 1832, was admitted to practice. Learning that Findlay, the then new county seat of Hancock County, had no lawyer, he at once concluded to cast his fortunes with that village. Traveling on foot from Tiffin, he reached Findlay on the third day of his journey, and went to reside in the home of Dr. L. Q. Rawson, a practicing physician of the village. This was in August, 1832, and in September he was appointed prosecuting attorney, which position he held until May, 1836. The office of prosecutor, however, paid a very small salary during this period of the county's history, and for several months after settling in Findlay, Mr. Goit patiently waited for clients that never came. Discouraged at the poor outlook he at last made up his mind to leave the town, but ere carrying out his intention the tide turned, he was engaged to teach a school, and was thus guaranteed sufficient to pay his board. Clients soon began to consult him, hope took the place of despondency, and he gave up the idea of leaving Findlay. While boarding at the tavern of William Taylor, in 1835, he married Miss Jane Patterson, a sister of Mrs. Taylor, with whom she was living. In May, 1836, Mr. Goit was appointed auditor, *vice* John C. Shannon, deceased, and served till March, 1837. In April, 1837, he was again appointed prosecuting attorney, but resigned the office in October, 1838. The same month he was elected treasurer, and filled that office two successive terms. He was now on the high road to prosperity, and besides attending to the duties of his profession launched out boldly into other pursuits. He accumulated a large amount of land, and engaged extensively in mercantile business in Hancock, Allen and Putnam Counties. He, however, got "too many irons in the fire;" his business was too complex for judicious management, and his large landed interests finally became an incumbrance and proved his financial downfall. From January, 1858, to January, 1862,



J. M. Coffinberry



he again filled the office of prosecuting attorney, and this closed his official career. Mr. Goit possessed unbounded energy, and though a fair lawyer did not devote sufficient attention to his profession to keep up with the times. He was a man of fine personal appearance and dignified carriage, and was regarded as a very strong jury lawyer. Though he finally lost the fruits of a lifetime of persevering industry, he did not, however, "fail," as that term is commonly understood, but paid his creditors to the last farthing, no man losing a cent by him, and his every promise being faithfully redeemed. Such was his sterling honesty, that his principal solace at the hour of death was the fact that he owed no man a dollar. His first wife died in the spring of 1863, leaving a family of three sons and one daughter. (One of the sons was subsequently killed in the Rebellion, the other two reside in Wood County, and the daughter in Michigan.) Mr. Goit was afterward married to Mrs. Sarah A. McConnell, of Van Buren, and in the fall of 1867 removed to Bowling Green, Wood Co., Ohio, where he died May 29, 1880. Two daughters were born of the second marriage, both of whom are dead, but his widow is still a resident of Bowling Green. No man has ever lived in Findlay who is more kindly remembered than Edson Goit. He was charitable to a fault, and every worthy public enterprise found in him a warm friend and generous supporter.

Arnold F. Merriam was the second lawyer to locate in Findlay. He was born in Brandon, Rutland Co., Vt., December 17, 1811, and was there educated and began the study of law. In early manhood he removed to Zanesville, Ohio, where he completed his law studies and was admitted to practice. He soon afterward started for Vinton County, where he intended to locate, but during his journey met Wilson Vance, who induced him to change his mind and come to Findlay. He arrived here in the spring of 1835, and entered into partnership with Edson Goit. In June, 1836, he was appointed prosecuting attorney, which office he filled till April, 1837, when he resigned. On the 27th of May, 1837, he married Miss Sarah A. Baldwin, sister of Dr. William Baldwin, who bore him one son and two daughters. In January, 1838, Mr. Merriam started the *Hancock Republican*, the first Whig paper published in the county, which he published about a year. He then removed to Mansfield, Ohio, sold the press, and subsequently went to Kentucky, where he died in July, 1844. His widow returned with her family to Findlay, subsequently married Judge Robert L. Strother, and is still a resident of Findlay. Though Mr. Merriam followed his profession about four years in this county, he left Findlay at such an early day that little is remembered of him except by his immediate friends.

John H. Morrison, the next resident lawyer, is one of the best known members of the pioneer bar. He was born in Uniontown, Penn., in 1802, but removed when quite young, to Perry County, Ohio, where at the age of fifteen he lost his right arm by an accident. Young Morrison received a good common school education, read law in the office of Philemon Beecher, of Lancaster, Ohio, began practice in Bucyrus, and afterward filled the offices of prosecuting attorney and treasurer of Crawford County. In the fall of 1836 he located in Findlay, and soon became well known throughout Northwestern Ohio. Mr. Morrison was talented, blunt and fearless to a remarkable degree, possessed untiring energy, and was an indefatigable worker in the interests of his clients. He was very eccentric, and many amusing anecdotes are told by the older members of the bar to illustrate

his marked peculiarities. Judge M. C. Whiteley says that during a certain term of court held by Judge Goode, at Findlay, Mr. Morrison had a case in which he manifested much interest, and after the evidence had closed he felt that the cause of his client was lost. Feeling somewhat irritated, he began his address to the court and jury in the following blunt manner: "May it please the court; by the perjury of witnesses, the ignorance of the jury and the corruption of the court, I expect to be beaten in this case." The Judge, very much surprised, turned to the counsel and sharply inquired: "What is that you say, Mr. Morrison?" Then the latter promptly replied, "That's all I have to say on that point," and went on with his address. At another time, says the same authority, one of his clients made application to the court for a license, and Judge Goode announced that the application was refused. Considerably excited Mr. Morrison arose and addressed the associates as follows: "Judge Ewing, is that your decision?" "Yes." "Judge Roller, do you concur in that decision?" "Yes." He was about putting the same question to Judge Hammond, when Judge Goode, very much surprised at the proceeding said, "Mr. Morrison, what are you about? What are you doing?" "Why, I'm polling the court, your honor." Mr. Morrison was married in Perry County, Ohio, to a Miss Henthorn, who died in Bucyrus without issue. He afterward married Miss Nancy Williams, who reared a family of five children, four of whom with the mother are residents of Findlay. He died April 19, 1854, but he is as vividly remembered by the old members of the profession as if his death occurred only a year ago instead of thirty-two.

Jacob Barnd was a bright, promising young lawyer, who died in 1845. He was a native of Perry County, Ohio, and a son of Christian Barnd, a pioneer of 1831, in which year he removed with his parents to this county. In 1832 the family moved from the farm into Findlay, where Jacob afterward studied law under Edson Goit. He was admitted in 1837, and in October, 1838, was appointed prosecuting attorney, but served only till the following January. He filled the recorder's office two terms, from October, 1838, to October, 1844, and it is probable he did not practice much during that period. He left two sons, one of whom lives in Fostoria, and the other in Kansas.

Jude Hall came to Findlay about 1836, where he followed the carpenter trade, and sometimes preached the gospel. He was a queer specimen of the *genus homo* and quite an eccentric character. He read law with Edson Goit, and soon after admission, in 1838, he was elected prosecuting attorney, and re-elected in 1840. In 1843 he removed to Defiance, and thence to Upper Sandusky, where further trace of him is lost in the fading twilight of tradition.

Hon. Charles W. O'Neal comes next in the order of time. He was born in Middletown, Frederick Co., Md., January 19, 1811, and in 1833 removed to Zanesville, Ohio, where the following year he was married to Miss Amy J. Baldwin. In July, 1835, he came to Findlay, and began the study of law in the office of Goit & Merriam, and in August, 1838, was admitted to practice. Mr. O'Neal was a practical surveyor, and did a great deal of surveying in this county. He was also one of the pioneer school teachers of Findlay. In 1836 he was elected auditor, serving one term, and also represented this district in the State Senate from 1844 to 1846. He practiced his profession in Hancock County nearly forty years, retiring from

active practice a few years prior to his death, and removing to Indiana, whence he returned to and died in Findlay, December 20, 1879. Mr. O'Neal, though a safe counsellor, was not an advocate, and rarely appeared in that capacity in any important case. He was very methodical and dignified in his practice, terse and forcible in argument, and always courteous to the opposing counsel. He was close and economical in his business habits, and very successful in the accumulation of wealth, leaving to his descendants a handsome fortune.

Abel F. Parker was born in Cavendish, Windsor Co., Vt., May 11, 1800, and died in Findlay, May 31, 1881, in his eighty-second year. In early manhood he settled in Genesee County, N. Y., where he was married in 1823 to Miss Maria Strong. In December, 1836, he removed with his family to Blanchard Township, Hancock Co., Ohio., and two years afterward located in Findlay. He read law under Edson Goit, and was admitted to the bar in 1842. The same year he was elected prosecuting attorney and served one term. In 1846 he was again elected prosecutor, and re-elected in 1848, but resigned the office in April, 1849. Mr. Parker also filled the office of postmaster of Findlay. His first wife died in 1848, leaving a family of one son and two daughters. In 1852 Mr. Parker married Mrs. Sarah A. Robinson, who bore him two sons and one daughter. Five of the six children survive, and all were living at the time of their father's death, the eldest, Edwin, having since died. Though Mr. Parker lived to the ripe old age of more than four score years, he nevertheless continued in practice up to within a short period of his decease. He loved his profession and was highly respected by his associates of the bar.

Ezra Brown is the oldest surviving member of the present bar of Findlay, though not now in active practice. He was born in Lower Canada, August 4, 1814, and when about three years old removed with his parents to what is now the town of Albion, Orleans Co., N. Y., where he resided till October, 1839, when he came to Findlay. He entered the law office of John H. Morrison, and was admitted to practice in July, 1842. He formed a partnership with his preceptor, and continued in practice until February, 1847, then removed to a farm in Wood County, near Fostoria. In the spring of 1852 Mr. Brown returned to Findlay and resumed the practice of his profession. He remained in practice till the fall of 1880, and then retired from the active duties thereof. In the spring of 1885 Mr. Brown was elected justice of the peace, which office he now holds. He has been mayor of Findlay, and also served in the town council. On the 11th of November, 1845, he was married to Miss Jane E. Bigelow, who died February 4, 1873, leaving a family of two daughters. One son died at Memphis in 1863, while serving in the late Rebellion.

Elijah Williams was also a student in the office of Mr. Morrison, and was admitted with Ezra Brown in July, 1842. He practiced in Findlay about eight years ere his removal to Oregon, and is remembered as a sharp, shrewd but diffident lawyer. Judge Coffinberry, in a recent letter to the writer, says: "I found Elijah Williams, one of the early lawyers of Findlay, at Portland. He is seventy-six, well preserved in mind and body, well heeled financially, and living as pleasantly as a widower can live, on one of his farms on the margin of East Portland. He feels that his life work is about done, but from the snap of his eyes when we talked finance, I judge that he still feels the inclination as well as the pecuniary ability to discount a good note for any reasonable amount."

Hon. Machias C. Whiteley can be justly called the Nestor of the bar of Hancock County, as for nearly forty-three years he has been an active participant in the courts of this portion of the State. He comes of Scotch-Irish stock, and was born May 24, 1822, in East New Market, Dorchester Co., Md., on the eastern shore of that State. His paternal grandfather was a patriot of the Revolution, and his father served in the war of 1812 against the same old foe of American liberty. In 1832 his parents, Willis and Elizabeth Whiteley, removed with their family to Baltimore, Fairfield Co., Ohio, where Machias worked on a farm and attended the common schools of the neighborhood. He subsequently learned the harness and saddler trade, which he followed until coming to Findlay in 1840. For two years he worked in the clerk's office, devoting his spare time in reading law with Goit & O'Neal, and then returned to Fairfield County, where he continued his law studies with Medill & Whitman, of Lancaster. On the 4th of July, 1843, he was admitted to the bar at Tiffin, and immediately opened a law office in Findlay, where he gradually grew into a lucrative practice. In 1847 Mr. Whiteley was married to Miss Sarah A. Henderson, a native of Wayne County, Ohio, and daughter of William L. Henderson, a leading pioneer surveyor and official of Hancock County, and one of the early settlers of Findlay. Nine children were born to this union, the survivors being Willis H. and Frederick P., of Findlay; Mrs. George B. Stevenson, of Upper Sandusky, Ohio, and Mrs. F. B. Satterthwaite, of Ottawa, Ohio. In 1848 Mr. Whiteley was elected to the Legislature, and re-elected in 1849. While in the Legislature he took part in the election of Salmon P. Chase to the United States Senate, and secured the charter of the Pittsburgh, Ft. Wayne & Chicago Railroad. In 1856 he was a delegate to the Democratic National Convention, which nominated Buchanan and Breckinridge for President and Vice-president of the United States. The same fall he was elected judge of the court of common pleas for the third subdivision of the Ninth Judicial District, and re-elected in 1861, serving on the bench ten years. In 1864 Judge Whiteley was nominated on the Democratic ticket for supreme judge, but with the balance of the ticket was defeated, the State going largely Republican that year. Upon retiring from the bench in 1867, Judge Whiteley resumed practice in Findlay, and has ever since devoted his attention to his professional duties, the firm of Whiteley & Bope being long recognized as one of the prominent legal firms of Northwestern Ohio. Judge Whiteley's wife died July 27, 1880, and the following year he married Mrs. Mary C. Hollinger, daughter of Dr. A. F. Burson, of Mt. Blanchard, who died February 1, 1886.

William M. Patterson was admitted to the bar at Tiffin, July 4, 1843, on the same day as Machias C. Whiteley. He was born in Harrison County, Ohio, March 24, 1812, and in the spring of 1834 came to Findlay with his parents, Major John and Elizabeth Patterson. He read law with Charles W. O'Neal, and upon his admission began practice in Findlay. In 1844 he was elected prosecuting attorney and served one term. He was married, in 1834, to Susan Amspoker, and resided in Findlay till 1854, when, with his wife and four children, he removed to Kansas, and died in the spring of 1858, from the effects of an accident caused by a boiler explosion in the fall of 1855, in a saw-mill which he was then operating.

Hon. James M. Coffinberry became a member of the Findlay bar in the fall of 1845. He was born in Mansfield, Richland Co., Ohio, May 16, 1818; whence in 1836 his father, Andrew Coffinberry, removed to Per-

rysburg, Wood County. Here James M. read law in his father's office, and in 1840 was admitted to the bar. His father, widely known as "Count" Coffinberry, was one of the leading attorneys of Northwestern Ohio, and practiced in this portion of the State throughout the earlier years of its history. Soon after admission, James M. opened a law office in Maumee City, and subsequently served as prosecuting attorney of Lucas County. Late in the fall of 1845 he settled in Findlay, where he purchased an interest and took editorial charge of the *Findlay Herald*, the local organ of the Whig party. In the spring of 1846 he became sole owner of the *Herald*, which he published about three years, then sold out to Dr. David Patton. From the date of his coming to Findlay, Judge Coffinberry took and retained a leading position at the Hancock County bar; and in 1852 was a prime mover in the establishment of the Findlay Bank, the first financial institution established in the county. Feeling the need of a larger field for the full exercise of his maturer powers, he concluded in 1855 to remove to Cleveland, where he at once assumed a high rank among the eminent lawyers of that city. In 1861 he was elected on the Union ticket, judge of the common pleas court, and served five years on the bench. Upon the expiration of his judicial term, he resumed his professional duties, and continued in the enjoyment of a large and lucrative practice till 1875 when he retired, and has since devoted his energies to the management of his private estate. Judge Coffinberry is a man of broad culture, a clear, vigorous and forcible writer, and has justly been recognized as a brilliant advocate, a logical and comprehensive reasoner, and an upright, unswerving and impartial judge. "His charges to the jury," says one high authority, "were models for clearness, directness and logical compactness, and it is complimentary to his judicial learning and professional ability, that no legal opinion pronounced by him was ever reversed on review by a higher court." Judge Coffinberry has always taken a deep and active interest in the social and material progress of the beautiful city of his adoption.

Charles S. Coffinberry, a younger brother of the Judge, practiced law in Findlay about three years. He was a native of Mansfield, Ohio, born February 1, 1824; read law with his father at Perrysburg, and came to Findlay in the spring of 1846, where he formed a partnership with John H. Morrison. In 1849, in company with many others from this portion of Ohio, he went to California, and was afterward appointed by President Fillmore to take the first census of that State. In the discharge of this laborious undertaking he was ably assisted by his father, who had followed him to California. He finally returned to Ohio, and for a few months was associated with his brother in the practice of the law in Cleveland; but failing health compelled him to again relinquish his professional labors, and he went to Oregon and New Mexico, where he spent the latter years of his life, dying of consumption about thirty miles south of Pueblo, December 17, 1873.

Aaron H. Bigelow was a native of Vermont and a graduate of Middlebury College. He there read law and was admitted to practice. In July, 1841, he located in Findlay, and for a few years was engaged in mercantile pursuits. He then began the practice of the law, which he followed until 1856, when he gave up the profession and subsequently removed to Indiana, where he died about ten years ago. Mr. Bigelow possessed a good education, and was a fair speaker, but never acquired much practice.

John E. Rosette first located in Mt. Blanchard, where he was married. In 1848 he removed to Findlay, and in April, 1849, was appoined prosecuting attorney, *vice* Abel F. Parker, resigned. He was twice elected to the same position, serving until January, 1854. He was a modest, quiet man, of studious habits, possessing good legal judgment, but diffident and lacking self reliance. Soon after the expiration of his last term as prosecutor he removed to Springfield, Ill., where he rapidly secured recognition as a sound, reliable lawyer. He was appointed by President Johnson United States district attorney for the southern district of Illinois. For some years before his death he enjoyed a wide reputation as a criminal lawyer, and commanded the confidence of a bar embracing many distinguished men.

Henry Brown, the present prosecuting attorney of Hancock County, is one of the oldest and best known members of the bar. He was born in Albion, Orleans Co., N. Y., November 5, 1826, and received a good literary and classical education at the Albion Academy. In May, 1844, he came to Ohio, and engaged in school teaching near Fostoria, which vocation he followed three years. During this period he commenced the study of law under Hon. Warren P. Noble, of Tiffin, and in the fall of 1848 was admitted to practice. In January, 1849, he located in Findlay, as a member of the law firm of Goit, Bigelow & Brown. In January, 1851, Mr. Brown became one of the editors and proprietors of the *Hancock Courier*, which he continued to publish until January, 1854, when he sold his interest to his partner, Aaron Blackford, who had also been his law partner for the last two years. In January, 1855, he assumed entire editorial control of the *Courier*, and carried on the paper till December 20, 1856. He was elected auditor in October, 1854, and served till March, 1857. Mr. Brown was then compelled by ill health to retire from active business. After a period of needed recuperation he resumed the practice of his profession, and has ever since remained at the helm. In November, 1862, Mr. Brown was appointed prosecuting attorney to serve the unexpired term of James A. Bope, resigned; was elected as his own successor, and re-elected to the same position. In 1868 he was the Democratic senatorial candidate for election in this district, and made a splendid race, reducing the previous Republican majority 1,973 votes, being defeated by only 227. Mr. Brown was again elected prosecutor in 1875, and re-elected in 1877. In 1884 he was once more chosen to fill the same office, and is the present incumbent. Mr. Brown has hosts of friends, and no member of the bar stands higher in the esteem and confidence of the people of Hancock County. He is regarded as one of the county's safest and most honorable attorneys, and for many years has enjoyed a large and well paying practice, all of which he justly deserves.

William Gribben is one of the present members of the bar, and might have been to-day one of its brightest ornaments if he had devoted his talents to his profession. He was born in Allegheny County, Penn., March 11, 1825, and the following autumn his parents removed to what is now Ashland County, Ohio, where William grew to maturity and received a common school education. He read law with Johnson & Sloan, of Ashland, and was admitted to the bar in the fall of 1850. The same autumn he located in Findlay, and formed a partnership with John H. Morrison, and subsequently with Judge Whiteley. In 1853 he was elected prosecuting

attorney, and re-elected in 1855, serving two consecutive terms. He served in the Legislature from 1862 to 1864, and received the certificate of re-election, but lost the seat on contest. This was during the most exciting period in the political history of the State, when Democrats were publicly branded as rebels, and political passion ran high.

In 1851, Philip G. Galpin came to Findlay and entered into partnership with his brother-in-law, James M. Coffinberry, which was the beginning of his legal career. He was born in Buffalo, N. Y., in 1830, reared in New Haven, Conn., graduated from Yale College, read law in New Haven and was admitted to the bar at Columbus, Ohio, in 1851, whence he immediately removed to Findlay. After about two years' practice at this bar, Mr. Galpin went to Toledo, and subsequently to New York City, where he practiced his profession several years with flattering success. Frequent bleeding at the lungs warned him that he must find a more congenial climate, and he sought and found deliverance at San Francisco. In that great metropolis of the Pacific coast he soon won recognition as the peer of the many able members of his profession. He now stands at the head of the California bar as a real estate lawyer, and is in the full tide of a distinguished and useful career.

Aaron Blackford is one of the oldest and most prominent members of the Hancock County bar, to which he has belonged for about thirty-four years. He was born in Columbiana County, Ohio, February 8, 1827, and removed to Findlay with his parents, Price and Abigail Blackford, in October, 1834. He received his education in the public schools of Findlay and at Delaware College, Delaware, Ohio. He read law with Henry Brown, of Findlay, attended the Cincinnati Law School, and was admitted to the bar in May, 1852. In January, 1851, he became associated with Henry Brown in the publication of the *Hancock Courier*, which they jointly edited till January, 1854, when Mr. Blackford became sole editor. He conducted the paper about one year, and then disposed of his interest to his former partner. During this period Mr. Blackford also practiced law, and with the passing years has attained considerable local eminence in his profession. He is well known throughout this portion of the State, and his practice has kept pace with the growth in wealth and population of his adopted county.

Andrew, familiarly known as "Count" Coffinberry, was conspicuous among the old time lawyers of the Maumee Valley, and though not a resident of Findlay until a few years prior to his death, he practiced at this bar before the county possessed a single attorney. He was born at Martinsburg, Berkley Co., Va., August 20, 1788, where his grandparents had emigrated from Germany in 1750. In 1794 his father, George L. Coffinberry, a Revolutionary patriot, removed with his family to Ohio County, Va., and in 1796 to Chillicothe, Ohio. In 1807 the family settled at Lancaster, Ohio, where the father established a newspaper—the first published in that town. Andrew worked in the office, and subsequently, in partnership with John C. and James M. Gilkinson, succeeded his father in its publication, first at Lancaster and afterward at St. Clairsville. Finding the business not very remunerative, Andrew went to Philadelphia and worked in a newspaper office and on a press formerly owned and conducted by Benjamin Franklin. From there he shipped on the United States frigate "Constitution," commanded by Capt. Isaac Hull. After a naval service of two years he joined his parents, who had removed to the then embryo village of Mansfield, Ohio.

It is said he used to read the one weekly paper which came to Mansfield as early as 1811, from a big log on the public square to the assembled citizens of the village. He read law in the office of John M. May, of Mansfield, and was admitted to practice in 1813. Mr. Coffinberry was the first law student, the first justice of the peace and the second lawyer in Mansfield, and one of the earliest, if not the first, common pleas clerk of Richland County. Though residing at Mansfield his practice extended to the western boundary of the State. We find him in Findlay as early as 1831, and he may have been here prior to that date. In the spring of 1836 he removed with his family to Perrysburg, Wood County, where he resided till 1849–50. From Perrysburg he removed to Sidney, Shelby Co., Ohio; there he left his family and went to California. Upon the death of his wife, which occurred during his absence, his son James M. brought the family to Findlay, where their father joined them on his return from California. Here he continued in practice until his death, May 11, 1856. Count Coffinberry was not only a lawyer of ability, but possessed considerable literary talent and gave some attention to the Muses. "The Forest Rangers," a descriptive poem on the battle of Fallen Timbers, is yet well remembered as one of his productions. "He was," says a recent biographer, "a man of rare endowments and marked characteristics, widely known and greatly esteemed for his pure and upright life, while his quaint wit and genial manners gave him ready access to the hearts of all classes. He was called the 'Good Count Coffinberry' by the younger members of the profession (all of whom if living are now past middle life), in grateful recognition of services rendered and courtesies shown them when they most needed direction and encouragement from such veterans of the bar. His sobriquet of 'Count' was first playfully given him by his professional associates, from some real or supposed resemblance to the illustrious German jurist and publicist Count Puffendorf. The title was recognized as being so appropriate to the man that it stuck to him for life, and thousands of those who knew him long and well never learned that it was not his real name."

Hon. William Mungen is a native of Baltimore, Md., born May 12, 1821, and removed to Carroll County, Ohio, in 1830. Here he received a common school education and subsequently studied Latin, German and the physical sciences. He came to Findlay in October, 1842; in February 1845, took possession of the old *Hancock Farmer* and changed the name to the *Hancock Democrat*, and on the 1st of July, 1845, became the editor and proprietor of the *Hancock Courier*, consolidating the two papers. Excepting one year that the office was rented to William M. Case and a short period to B. F. Rosenberg, Mr. Mungen published the *Courier* until January, 1851, when he sold the establishment to Henry Brown and Aaron Blackford, two leading members of the present bar. In 1846 Mr. Mungen was elected auditor of Hancock County and re-elected in 1848. In 1851 he was chosen to represent this district in the State Senate and declined a re-nomination, which was then equal to election. In the meantime he had been reading law during his spare moments, and in 1852 was admitted to the bar and began practice. When the Rebellion broke out in 1861, Mr. Mungen was foremost in recruiting the Fifty-seventh Ohio Volunteer Infantry, and was commissioned colonel of that gallant regiment, which he commanded until April, 1863, when he resigned his commission. Col. Mungen served as a Democrat two terms in Congress, from 1867 to 1871, and in recognition of



A. Hurd M.D.



his services in the army is now receiving a pension. During the active period of his career Col. Mungen was recognized as a clear, forcible and logical writer, a fair lawyer and a shrewd, vigorous politician. When not engaged in the duties of the several public offices he has filled, Col. Mungen devoted his attention to his profession, in which he was quite successful.

John F. Caples came to Findlay from Fostoria (then Rome) in the fall of 1854, and practiced law here till the spring of 1858, when he removed to Warsaw, Ind. He subsequently went to Portland, Oreg., where he is still engaged in the practice of his profession. "John F. Caples," says Judge Coffinberry, "is one of the best known and most distinguished lawyers of his adopted State, and one of the most entertaining and eloquent forensic speakers on the Pacific coast. He is in good circumstances, has reared an interesting and accomplished family, is full of anecdote and bubbling over with fun." During his stay in Findlay he was recognized as a good speaker and a promising young lawyer.

Daniel B. Beardsley, one of the older members of the present bar, was born in Licking County, Ohio, May 12, 1832, and was brought by his parents to Hancock County in 1834, where he has ever since resided. Mr. Beardsley was educated in the public schools of the county, and followed school teaching for some years. He read law under Walker & West, of Bellefontaine, and was there admitted to the bar in August, 1856. In March, 1857, he located in practice in Findlay, since which date he has belonged to the bar of this county. In 1858 he was elected a justice of the peace of Findlay Township, and re-elected eight times, serving continuously from the spring of 1858 to the spring of 1885, a period of twenty-seven years. Mr. Beardsley was prominent in the organization of "The Hancock County Pioneer and Historical Association," and an active member during its existence. His connection with this society prompted him to write a history of the county, which he published in 1881. Since retiring from the office of justice in the spring of 1885, he has devoted his attention to his profession.

William C. Bunts located in Findlay in the spring of 1858, whither he removed from Youngstown, Mahoning Co., Ohio, of which county he was a native. He graduated, in 1854, from Allegheny College, Meadville, Penn., read law with Ridgley Powers, of Youngstown, and upon admission began practice with his preceptor. Mr. Bunts practiced law in Findlay till 1860, and then returned to Youngstown and resumed partnership with Mr. Powers. During the war he served for a time on the staff of Gen. Rosecrans, and then settled at Nashville, Tenn. He afterward came back to Youngstown; thence removed to Cleveland, where he filled the positions of Assistant United States District Attorney and city solicitor, dying January 16, 1874, while holding the latter office.

Hon. John M. Palmer was born in Clinton County, N. Y., July 5, 1814, learned the cabinet-maker's trade in Rutland, Vt., and worked at his trade in that State. In 1837 he came to Ohio, and attended Granville Seminary. He studied law with Hon. Henry Stansberry, of Cincinnati, and was there admitted to practice in 1841. In 1843 he was married at Lancaster, Ohio, to Miss Ellen Weaver, and located in practice at Somerset, Perry County. In 1846 he removed to Defiance, where he followed his profession till 1852, when he was elected judge of the court of common pleas. While still on the bench Judge Palmer removed to Putnam County, in which county he had considerable landed interests, and a township of which was named

in his honor. In June, 1858, he settled in Findlay, and resumed the practice of law in partnership with John Maston. From 1861 to 1863 he was a commissary in the army with the rank of captain, but resigning the office remained in the South for some time. Returning to Findlay he again took up his practice and followed the profession up to the illness which resulted in his death, November 29, 1876.

Col. James A. Bope, of the firm of Whiteley & Bope, is a native of Adams County, Ohio, born November 30, 1833. His parents removed to Fairfield County, where our subject grew to maturity and received the advantages of a public school education. He graduated from Wittenberg College, Springfield, Ohio, in 1855, and soon afterward entered the law office of Hunter & Dougherty, of Lancaster, Ohio. In the fall of 1857 he was admitted to practice, and the following year opened an office in Lancaster. Col. Bope came to Findlay in the fall of 1859, where he has ever since prosecuted his profession. In October, 1861, he was elected on the Democratic ticket prosecuting attorney of Hancock County; but he entered the army as captain of Company D, Ninety-ninth Ohio Volunteer Infantry, in July, 1862, and resigned the prosecutorship the following October. He served until the close of the war, and came out with the rank of lieutenant-colonel. Resuming practice in Findlay he soon became recognized as one of the most prominent attorneys of this bar. Col. Bope is a careful, conscientious, scholarly lawyer, who believes thoroughly in the dignity of his profession, and is one of the most courteous, popular and successful members of the legal fraternity.

A few other lawyers, besides those mentioned, practiced for a brief period in Findlay prior to 1860. Alonzo Monroe was here as early as 1847, and after a few years' limited practice left the county. Jacob Carr was admitted to the bar in 1848, but after a couple of years' trial abandoned the profession and has since practiced dentistry. Charles C. Pomroy was practicing here in the spring of 1857, and in 1858 was elected mayor of Findlay, but he soon after removed from the town. S. F. Hull's name appears among the attorneys of this bar in June, 1856, but he remained only a couple of years. John Maston was a partner of Judge Palmer, in June, 1858, and he, too, soon left the county. Philip Ford, who came in October, 1859, and a few other names might be added to these, though none of them staid sufficiently long to acquire much practice, or to become fully identified with the interests of the Hancock County bar.

Brief biographies of the principal resident attorneys of the county who practiced at this bar prior to 1860 having now been given, it only remains to add the following alphabetical list of the present bar: William H. Anderson, Oren A. Ballard, Frank Ballard, Daniel B. Beardsley, Jesse C. Bitler, Aaron Blackford, Jason Blackford, James A. Bope, Ezra Brown, Henry Brown, Jacob F. Burket, William L. Carlin, Ira B. Conine, Elijah T. Dunn, Alfred Graber, William Gribben, John M. Hamlin, John H. Johnston, Samuel A. Kagy, Robert Morris, William Mungen, George F. Pendleton, James M. Platt, John Poe, Aaron B. Shafer, Morgan D. Shafer, John Sheridan, Theodore Totten, Machias C. Whiteley, Willis H. Whiteley and Albert Zugschwert.

CHAPTER VII.

EDUCATION IN OHIO—LANDS ORIGINALLY GRANTED FOR EDUCATIONAL PURPOSES—COMMISSIONERS OF SCHOOLS AND SCHOOL LANDS IN 1822—THE SCHOOL LANDS SOLD AND A SCHOOL FUND ESTABLISHED—ANNUAL DISTRIBUTION OF SCHOOL MONEY—PIONEER SCHOOLS, SCHOOL-HOUSES AND BOOKS IN HANCOCK COUNTY—CHARACTER OF THE EARLY TEACHERS—"BARRING OUT" THE MASTER—HOW PIONEER TEACHERS WERE USUALLY PAID—GROWTH OF EDUCATION—GOVERNMENT AND PROGRESS OF SCHOOLS PRIOR TO 1851—SCHOOLS FOR COLORED YOUTH ESTABLISHED—REORGANIZATION OF SCHOOLS UNDER THE LAWS OF 1853—THEIR PRESENT GOVERNMENT AND THE EDUCATIONAL ADVANTAGES THEY AFFORD.

THE most casual observer cannot but have noticed, notwithstanding the privation and discomforts attending the lives of the early settlers, the zeal they manifested in education, and that, as soon as a sufficient number of pupils could be collected and a teacher secured, a house was erected for the purpose. The period just preceding the Revolution was characterized by its number of literary men, and the interest they gave to polite learning; and the patriots who where conspicuous in that struggle for human liberty were men not only of ability, but of no ordinary culture. We can readily understand that the influence of their example had its weight in molding public sentiment in other respects besides that of zeal for the patriot cause. To this may be added that, for the most part, the early pioneers were men of character, who endured the dangers and trials of a new country, not solely for their own sakes, but for their children, and with a faith in what the future would bring forth, clearly saw the power and value of education. Then we find, from the beginning, this object kept steadily in view, and provision made for its successful prosecution; and the express declaration of the fundamental law of the State enjoins that "the principal of all funds arising from the sale or other distribution of lands or other property granted or intrusted to the State for educational purposes, shall forever be preserved inviolate and undiminished, and the income arising therefrom shall be faithfully applied to the specific objects of the original grants or appropriations, and the General Assembly shall make such provisions by taxation or otherwise as, from the income arising from the school trust fund, shall secure a thorough and efficient system of common schools throughout the State."

The act of Congress providing for the admission of Ohio into the Union offered certain educational propositions to the people. These were, first, that Section 16 in each township, or, in lieu thereof, other contiguous or equivalent lands, should be granted for the use of schools; second, that thirty-eight sections of land, where salt springs had been found, should be granted to the State, never to be sold, or leased for a longer term than ten years; and third, that one-twentieth of the proceeds from the sale of the public lands in the State should be applied toward the construction of roads from the Atlantic to and through Ohio. Those propositions were offered on the condition that the public lands sold by the United States after the 30th

of June, 1802, should be exempt from State taxation for five years after sale. The ordinance of 1787 had already provided for the appropriation of Section 16 to the support of schools in every township sold by the United States. This, therefore, could not, in 1802, be properly made the subject of a new bargain between the United States and Ohio; and by many it was thought that the salt reservations and one-twentieth of the proceeds of the sale of public lands were inadequately equivalent for the proposed surrender of a right to tax for five years. The convention, however, accepted the propositions of Congress, on their being so modified and enlarged as to vest in the State, for the use of schools, Section 16 in each township sold by the United States, and three other tracts of land, equal in quantity respectively to one thirty-sixth of the Virginia Military Reservation, of the United States Military Tract and of the Connecticut Western Reserve, and to give three per cent of the proceeds of the public lands sold within the State to the construction of roads in Ohio, under the direction of the Legislature. Congress agreed to the proposed modifications, and thus was established the basis of the common school fund of Ohio.

We have seen in the foregoing how Congress, by a compact with the people, gave them one thirty-sixth part of all of the lands northwest of the Ohio River for school purposes. The lands for this purpose set apart were, however, often appropriated by squatters, and, through unwise, careless and sometimes corrupt legislation, these squatters were vested with proprietorship. Caleb Atwater, in his history of Ohio, in speaking on this subject says: "Members of the Legislature not unfrequently got acts passed and leases granted, either to themselves, their relatives or to their partisans. One senator contrived to get, by such acts, seven entire sections of land into either his own or his children's possession." From 1803 to 1820 the General Assembly spent a considerable portion of every session in passing acts relating to these lands, without advancing the cause of education to any degree.

In 1821 the House of Representatives appointed five of its members, viz., Caleb Atwater, Loyd Talbot, James Shields, Roswell Mills and Josiah Barber, a committee on schools and school lands. This committee subsequently made a report, rehearsing the wrong management of the school land trust on behalf of the State, warmly advocated the establishment of a system of education and the adoption of measures which would secure for the people the rights which Congress intended they should possess. In compliance with the recommendation of the committee, the Governor of the State, in May, 1822, having been authorized by the Legislature, appointed seven commissioners of schools and school lands, viz.: Caleb Atwater, Rev. John Collins, Rev. James Hoge, N. Guilford, Ephraim Cutler, Josiah Barber and James M. Bell. The reason why seven persons were appointed was because there were seven different sorts of school lands in the State, viz.: Section 16 in every township of the Congress lands, the United States Military lands, the Virginia Military lands, Symmes' Purchase, the Ohio Company's Purchase, the Refugee lands and the Connecticut Western Reserve. This commission of seven persons was reduced by various causes to one of three, Messrs. Atwater, Collins and Hoge, who performed the arduous duties incumbent upon them with but little remuneration and (at the time) but few thanks.

The Legislature of 1822–23 broke up without having taken any definite

action upon the report presented by the commission, but during the summer and autumn of 1824 the subject of the sale of the school lands was warmly agitated, and the friends of the measure triumphed over the opposition so far as to elect large majorities to both branches of the General Assembly in favor of its being made a law. The quantity of land set apart was ascertained in 1825 to be a little more than a half a million acres, and was valued at less than $1,000,000. The school lands were finally sold, the proceeds taken charge of by the State, the interest accruing from the moneys derived from the sale of the different classes of lands to be annually distributed among the counties in the respective land districts, according to the school enumeration of each county. It might be well to state here that the school age at this time was from four to sixteen, which was, however, changed whenever the General Assembly considered such a change necessary or judicious.

From the time the school lands were sold up to the present, each county in the State has received annually its quota of the interest obtained from this school fund. Nearly one-half the counties of Ohio pay more money into the common school fund of the State than they receive back again, the surplus thus raised going to poor or sparsely settled counties. Up to a recent date Hancock has been in the list of counties that receive more than they pay into the State fund. In 1875 she paid to the State $12,150.53, and received $14,334.40, or $2,183.87 more than paid in. In 1880 she paid $12,190.81, and received $13,909.50, or $1,718.69 more than paid in. The tide, however, has at least turned in her favor, for the duplicate of 1885 shows that the State received from this county $14,730.88, and paid back to her $14,406.00, or a balance of $324.78 in favor of the county. This balance will be somewhat reduced by delinquencies and the treasurer's fees, but there will be still a small amount in the county's favor, which fact fairly illustrates the progress made in the past ten years.

In the early development of Hancock County, a great variety of influences was felt in the way of general education. The settlements were and for years continued to be sparse. The people, as the pioneers of all new counties are, were poor, and lacked the means of remunerating teachers. Their poverty compelled all who were able to labor, and the work of the females was as important and toilsome as that of the men. Added to these, both teachers and books were scarce. This condition of things continued perhaps for more than a quarter of a century. Taking these facts into consideration, it is surprising that they had any schools whatever. It was not uncommon for children to trudge through the snow-covered forest from two to four miles before reaching the little log schoolhouse. And though the great majority of the pioneers of Hancock County embraced every opportunity to educate their children, there were some who cared little for educational matters—genuine backwoodsmen who reared their sons to shoot and trap successfully, and their daughters to spin and weave, but not to read or write.

The interest awakened in literature and science immediately after the Revolution followed the pioneers to their Western homes; but to make their efforts productive of useful results time became absolutely necessary. Just as soon as the settlements were prepared for the experiment, schools were opened; but at every step it was the acquisition of knowledge under difficulties. Everything connected with them was as simple and primitive as

were their dwellings, food and clothing. Houses were built in the various neighborhoods as occasion made necessary, not by subscription in money, but by labor. On a given day the neighbors assembled at some place previously agreed upon, and the work was done. Timber was abundant; they were skilled in the use of the ax, and having cut logs of the required length, the walls were soon raised. The roof was made of clapboards, kept in place by heavy poles reaching the length of the building. The door was of clapboards and creaked on wooden hinges; the latch of wood and raised by a string. The floor was "puncheon," or trees split in the middle, tolerably true, the edge and face being dressed with the ax. The crevices between the logs forming the walls were filled with "chinks," or split sticks of wood, and daubed with mud. The fire-place was equally rude, but of ample dimensions, built on the outside of the house, usually of stone to the throat of the flue, and the remainder of the chimney of split sticks of wood, daubed with puddled clay within and without. Light was admitted through the door and by means of an opening made by cutting out one of the logs, reaching almost the entire width of the building. This opening was high enough from the floor to prevent the boys from looking out, and in winter was covered with paper saturated with grease, to keep out the cold, as well as to admit light.

In the rural districts school "kept" only in winter. The furniture corresponded with the simplicity of the house. At a proper distance below the windows auger holes were bored in a slanting direction in one of the logs, and in these strong wooden pins were driven, and on the pins a huge slab or puncheon was placed, which served as a writing desk for the whole school. For seats, they used the puncheon, or more commonly the body of a smooth, straight tree, cut ten to twelve feet in length, and raised to a height of twelve to fifteen inches by means of pins securely inserted. It has been said that not infrequently the pins were of unequal length, and the bench predisposed to "wabble." Many of the pioneer teachers were natives of Ireland, who had left their homes for divers reasons, prior to and succeeding the struggle for Irish independence, in 1798, and here, in this land of freedom, were putting to good use the education obtained in their native isle. Dr. Johnson's notion that most boys required learning to be thrashed into them was practically carried out in the pioneer schoolhouse. The pupils sat with their faces toward the wall, around the room, while the teacher occupied the middle space to superintend each pupil separately. In some rooms a separate bench was furnished for those too young to write. Classes, when reciting, sat on a bench provided for this purpose.

The books were as primitive as the surroundings. The New Testament was a common reading book; the "English Reader" was occasionally found, and sometimes the "Columbian Orator." No one book was common in all the families. The reading class recited paragraphs alternately, and the book in use was made common property, passing from hand to hand during recitation. It was not unusual for the teacher to assist a pupil in one of his "sums," discipline a refractory scholar, and hear the reading-class at one and the same time. Dabold's, Smiley's and Pike's Arithmetics were commonly used, with the examples for practice almost exclusively in pounds, shillings and pence, and a marked absence of clear rules and definitions for the solving of the different divisions. Webster's "American

Speller" was the ordinary spelling-book, which afterward made way for Webster's "Elementary Speller." This latter book maintained its popularity for half a century. The spelling class closed the labors of the day. All who could spell entered the "big class," and the rivalry was sharp as to who should rank first as good spellers. The class was numbered in the order in which they stood in line, and retained the number until a miss sent some one above them. Spelling-matches were frequent, and contributed largely to make good spellers. Grammar was not often taught, partly for the reason that books were hard to get, and partly because some of the teachers were not proficient in this branch of learning. When the science was taught the text-book was Kirkham, which, though of little real merit, stimulated a taste for grammar. The boys and girls went to the same school, but sat on opposite benches.

It occasionally happened that teachers were employed who had learned that an elephant may be led by a hair, or more probably were blessed with gentle natures, and won the hearts and life-long affection of their pupils by their pleasant and loving ways; but these were exceptions. The standard of excellence was often measured by the ability and swift readiness to thrash the scholars on any provocation. Disobedience and ignorance were equal causes for the use of the "birch." "Like master, like boy." The characteristics of the one tended to develop a corresponding spirit in the other, and the cruelty of the one, with the absence, too frequently, of all just discrimination in the use of the rod, excited animosities which lasted through life. There were few boys of that day who did not cherish the purpose to "whale the master" on sight, at some future time.

When Christmas came the teacher was expected to treat the school. If he ignored this custom, through stinginess or some other reason, he was "barred out" by the offended pupils. Arriving at the schoolhouse early in the morning, they would fasten the windows securely, pile the benches high against the door, and when the unlucky pedagogue appeared a struggle for possession and mastery ensued, which generally resulted in the capitulation of the building, only after satisfactory arrangements were made for the treat. Exciting stories about "barring out" the teacher in nearly every township of Hancock County have been told, the relators, who were generally participants in this backwoods revenge, being now gray-haired men.

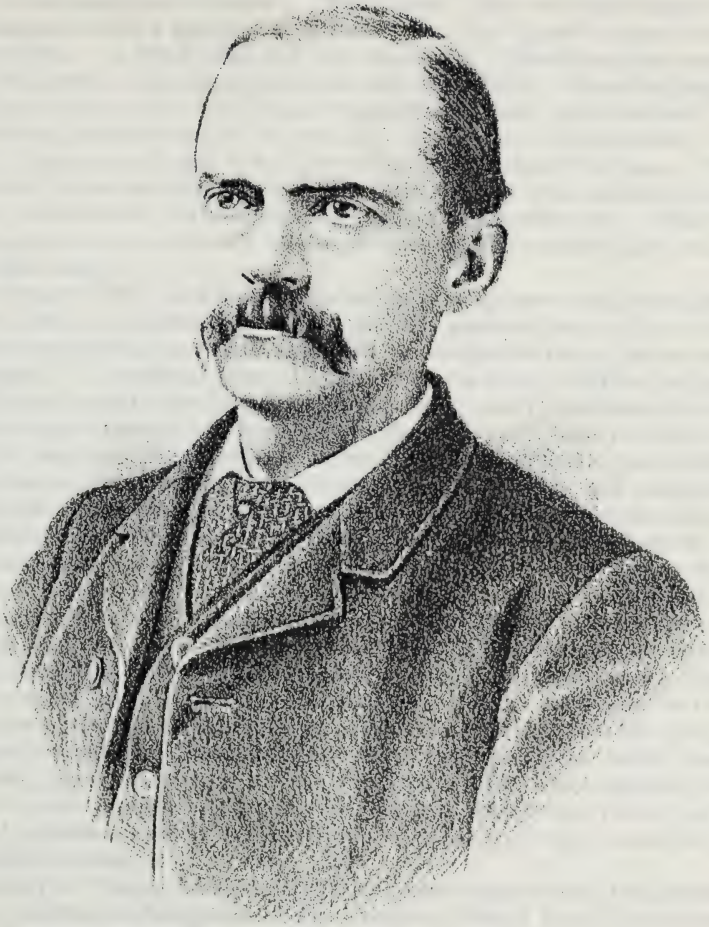
The schools were supported by subscription, the charge being from $1 to $3 per term of three months during the winter, to begin at 8 o'clock in the morning with an hour to an hour and a half recess at noon, and close at 5 o'clock. One-half of Saturdays, or alternate Saturdays, made part of the term. Writing was taught to all the larger pupils, and the only pen used was the goose or turkey quill, made into a pen by the skillful hand of the teacher. Mending the pens was an essential part of the work. Copy-books were made of sheets of foolscap paper stitched together, and copies were "set" by the teacher during recess, which were commonly taken from the maxims in use from time immemorial. Sometimes the teacher was partly paid in produce or other commodities, which were the equivalent to him for money, while his support was often obtained by "boarding around."

The introduction of schools in one settlement was an incentive to their speedy adoption in others, and the foregoing description applies to all of the earlier schools and schoolhouses of Hancock County. The erection of sawmills, and the opening up of wagon roads, brought about a better order of

things, and plank, weather-boarding and glass took the places of clapboards, puncheon floors and desks, log benches and greased paper windows. The pioneer schools opened in the different townships of this county will be found fully spoken of in the eighteen chapters specially devoted to the local history of said townships, to which the reader is referred for more definite information on the subject.

The gradual development and progress of education in Ohio was encouraged and fostered by State laws that were the germs from which came forth the present common school system; and, believing that a brief synopsis of these enactments would be valuable in this connection, the following facts have been compiled from the Ohio statutes, which will enable the reader to understand more thoroughly the history of the public school system up to the adoption of the constitution of 1851. On the 2d of January, 1806, three trustees and a treasurer were authorized to be elected in each township for the purpose of taking charge of the school lands, or the moneys arising therefrom, and applying the same to the benefit of the schools in said township. In 1810 this act was more fully defined, and in 1814 every scholar was entitled to his or her share of said school funds, even when attending a school outside of their own township. In 1815 those moneys were distributed according to the time of school attendance, an account of which each teacher was required to furnish to the trustees, and the apportionment made accordingly. No act of any importance was then passed until January 22, 1821, when a vote was ordered to be taken in every township for the purpose of deciding for or against organizing the same into school districts; also for the election of a school committee of three persons, and a collector, who was also treasurer in each district. The inhabitants were authorized to erect schoolhouses in their respective districts on land donated or purchased for that purpose, said schools to be paid for by donations and subscriptions, together with the taxes raised for that object. This act authorized that all lands located in said districts liable to State or county taxation were also liable to taxation for erecting schoolhouses, and for educating the children of those unable to pay for schooling. Parents and guardians were assessed in proportion to the number of children sent to school by them, but those unable to pay had their assessment remitted, and such deficiency was paid out of the fund raised by taxation. Of course, the moneys accruing from the school lands went into the school fund held by the treasurer of each district.

The first general school law was passed February 5, 1825, and it provided that "a fund shall hereafter be annually raised among the several counties in the State, in the manner pointed out by this act, for the use of common schools, for the instruction of youth of every class and grade without distinction, in reading, writing, arithmetic and other necessary branches of a common education." This was in harmony with the constitution, which asserted that schools and the means of instruction should forever be encouraged by legislative provision. This act provided for a general tax to be levied for the fostering of common schools throughout the State, which was to be collected annually and used for general educational purposes. Three school directors were to be elected annually in each district, to transact the business of said schools, erect buildings, employ teachers, receive and expend all moneys derived from any source, etc. The court of common pleas in each county was authorized to appoint annually "three suitable



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persons to be called examiners of common schools," whose duties were to examine teachers for qualification and grant certificates, also to visit and examine the schools throughout the county. If any district neglected to keep a school therein at any one time for the space of three years, its proportion of the school fund was divided among the other districts in said township that employed teachers. The school fund of each county was taken charge of by the auditor, who distributed the same between the several townships. In 1827, this act was amended. The directors were instructed to appoint a treasurer for each school district. Fines imposed by any justice of the peace, for offenses committed in any given district, were to be paid to the treasurer, to be used for the support of education in said district. Taxes were levied to build new houses and repair old ones. Every householder, whose tax was less than $1, had to pay that amount or give two days' labor toward the building or repairing of schoolhouses. The number of examiners was increased, but at no time was it to exceed that of townships in the county.

In February, 1829, a law was enacted providing more fully for general education, but the children of black or mulatto persons were not permitted to attend these schools, nor were such persons compelled to pay taxes toward their support. The official term of examiners was designated as two years, and their number to be not less than five in each county, nor more than one in each township thereof. Whenever the regular school fund ran short, the teachers, if not paid by voluntary subscription, were to be paid by those sending scholars to said schools. Often the regular fund did not pay for more than three months' schooling annually, so that even then the schools, though slowly improving, were anything but flourishing. The act of 1830 did not materially improve them, and in March, 1831, the following clause appears in a law relative to raising the school fund. It says a general fund shall be raised "for the instruction of the white youth of every class and grade," so that, although Ohio was a free State, a black man was debarred from the educational advantages accorded to his white brother, and, though his body was not kept in slavery, his mind was kept in ignorance as far as the State laws had the power to do so. With all this injustice the property of negroes was extempt from taxation for school purposes, which was at least a small grain of justice to the despised race. The school age was changed so as to include those between four and twenty-one years, and the number of examiners read "not less than five in each county, nor more than two in each township."

On the 2d of March, 1831, an act was passed authorizing the establishment of a fund to be designated "The Common School Fund," the income to be used for the support of common schools. All moneys arising from the sale of school lands were to be put into this fund, and the State guaranteed a certain interest on all such moneys paid into the State treasury. The county auditors were authorized to draw said interest and distribute it among the several districts in their respective counties, to which said lands originally belonged. Donations and bequests were also put into this fund and used for the same general purpose. These moneys, however, were to be funded annually, until January 1, 1835, after which date the interest was divided among the several counties in proportion to the number of white males over twenty-one years of age residing therein.

Up to this time women were not eligible as school teachers, for we find

that an act was passed December 23, 1831, allowing directors to employ female teachers, but the directors had to signify in writing to the school examiners that it was the desire of the inhabitants of said district to employ "a female teacher for instructing their children in spelling, reading and writing only." The examiners were then empowered to give the lady "a special certificate" to teach those branches. It is unnecessary for the writer to comment on this injustice; he takes it for granted that the most illiberal of men will agree with him that this discrimination against women was a grievous wrong and unworthy of this great Commonwealth. In 1833 other provisions and amendments were made to the school laws, whose object was to increase their influences, but no material changes were made in former ones.

The office of State Superintendent of schools was created March 7, 1837, and made permanent a year from that date. He was elected by the General Assembly for a term of five years, but on the 23d of March, 1840, the office was abolished, and the Secretary of State required to perform the duties thereof. In 1838 a fund of $200,000 was provided for, to be annually distributed among the several counties, according to the number of white youth, unmarried, between the ages of four and twenty-one. It was known as the "State Common School Fund," was reduced March 7, 1842, to $150,000 and again raised to $300,000 on the 24th of March, 1851. By Article VI of the constitution of 1851, it is declared that the principal of all funds accruing from school lands, donations or bequests, "shall forever be preserved inviolate and undiminished." It was enacted by the law of 1838 that the township clerk should be superintendent of schools within his township, and this law remained in force until the reorganization of the school laws, in 1853. By this same law the county auditor was endowed with the position of superintendent of schools throughout the county. The number of school examiners was reduced to three members for each county, who were appointed by the court of common pleas.

On the 16th of March, 1839, an act was passed providing for the establishment of night schools in towns, wherein male youth over twelve years of age, who could not attend school in daytime, might be instructed. This law also enacted that scholars could attend German schools and yet receive their quota of school money. Subsequently the German language was introduced into the schools as a part of the regular studies.

On the 24th of February, 1848, a law was passed authorizing the establishment of separate schools for colored children. This law was amended in 1849, and was thought by many to be contrary to the spirit of the constitution, but the supreme court declared it constitutional. Separate school districts were authorized to be organized and managed by directors chosen by the adult male colored tax-payers, whose property was alone chargeable for the support of said schools. Colored children were not really debarred under the constitution at that time from attending the schools provided for white children, but it amounted to about the same thing, as the objection of any parent or guardian whose children attended said school prevented the attendance of colored youth. Thus the law existed until 1853, when the schools for colored children were placed upon the same basis as those for white. By the law of 1853, boards of education were directed, whenever the colored youth in any school district numbered more than thirty, to establish a school for them. This law was so amended in 1861 that two or more

districts could unite for the same purpose. Much trouble has been caused in different towns by the colored people insisting on sending their children to the schools for whites. In some places little or no opposition has been manifested, while in others a bitter struggle resulted. In the country districts and smaller towns white and colored children usually attend the same schools, and, as far as the writer has investigated the plan, it seems to work harmoniously.

The school law of 1853 made ample provision for the education of every class and grade of youth within the State. We have seen in the preceding pages that those who participated in the organization of the Northwest Territory, and subsequently the State, recognized religion, morality and knowledge as necessary to good government and the happiness of mankind. We have also seen the gradual development of education from its earliest inception in the State up to its present permanent foundation through the law of 1853. Under the present law the State is divided into school districts as follows: City districts of the first class, city districts of the second class, village districts, special districts and township districts. To administer the affairs of the districts, and to look after and promote the educational interests therein, the law has provided for the establishment of boards of education in each district. These boards may acquire real or personal property for the use of their districts, and are required to establish schools for free education of the youth of school age, and may establish schools of a higher grade than the primary schools. They are to determine the studies to be pursued and the text-books to be used in the schools under their control; to appoint superintendents of schools, teachers and other employes, and fix their salaries. They are authorized to make such rules and regulations as they may deem expedient and necessary for the government of the board, their appointees and pupils.

The State Commissioner of common schools is elected by the people, and his official term is three years. He is required to superintend and encourage teachers' institutes, confer with boards of education or other school officers, counsel teachers, visit schools and deliver lectures calculated to promote popular education. He is to have a supervision over the school funds, and has power by law to require proper returns to be made by the officers who have duties to perform pertaining to schools or school funds. It is his duty to give instruction for the organization and government of schools, and to distribute the school laws and other documents for the use of school officers. He is required by law to appoint a board of State Examiners, consisting of three persons, who hold their office for two years. This board is authorized to issue life certificates to such teachers as may be found, upon examination, to have attained "eminent professional experience and ability." These certificates are valid in any school district in the State, and supersede the necessity of all other examinations by the county or local boards of examiners. Each applicant for a State certificate is required to pay a fee of $3.

There is in each county in the State a board of examiners appointed by the probate judge, their official term being three years. The law provides that "it shall be the duty of the examiners to fix upon the time of holding the meetings for the examination of teachers in such places in their respective counties as will, in their opinion, best accommodate the greatest number of candidates for examination, notice of all such meetings being published

in some newspaper of general circulation in their respective counties, and at such meetings any two of said board shall be competent to examine to applicants and grant certificates; and as a condition of examination each applicant for a certificate shall pay the board of examiners a fee of 50 cents." The fees thus received are set apart as a fund for the support of teachers' institutes.

In city districts of the first and second class, and village districts having a population of not less than 2,500, the examiners are appointed by the boards of education. The fees charged are the same as those of the county boards, and are appropriated for the same purpose.

There are, in the different townships, subdistricts, in which the people elect, annually, a local director, whose term of office continues for three years. From this it will be seen that each subdistrict has a board consisting of three directors. These directors choose one of their number as clerk, who presides at the meetings of local directors, and keeps a record thereof. He also keeps a record of the proceedings of the annual school meetings of the subdistrict. The board of education of each township district consists of the township clerk and the local directors, who have been appointed clerks of the subdistricts.

The law provides that "in every district in the State there shall be taken, between the first Monday in September and the first Monday in October in each year, an enumeration of all unmarried youth, noting race and sex between six and twenty-one years of age, resident within the district and not temporarily there, designating also the number between sixteen and twenty-one years of age, the number residing in the Western Reserve, the Virginia Military District, the United States Military District, and in any original surveyed township or fractional township to which belongs Section 16, or other land in lieu thereof, or any other lands for the use of schools or any interest in the proceeds of such land: *Provided*, that in addition to the classified return of all the youth residing in the district that the aggregate number of youth in the district resident of any adjoining county shall be separately given, if any such there be, and the name of the county in which they reside." The clerk of each board of education is required to transmit annually to the county auditor an abstract of the returns of enumeration made to him on or before the second Monday of October.

The county auditor is required to transmit to the State Commissioner, on or before the 5th day of November, a duly certified abstract of the enumeration returns made to him by clerks of school districts. The law provides that "the Auditor of State shall, annually, apportion the common school funds among the different counties upon the enumeration and returns made to him by the State Commissioner of common schools, and certify the amount so apportioned to the county auditor of each county, stating from what sources the same is derived, which said sum the several county treasurers shall retain in their respective treasuries from the State funds; and the county auditors shall, annually, and immediately after their annual settlement with the county treasurers, apportion the school funds for their respective counties according to the enumeration and returns in their respective offices."

The law provides that the school year shall begin on the 1st day of September of each year, and close on the 31st of August of the succeeding

year. A school week shall consist of five days, and a school month of four school weeks. The law also provides, in relation to common schools, that they shall be "free to all youth between six and twenty-one years of age who are children, wards or apprentices of actual residents of the school district, and no pupil shall be suspended therefrom except for such time as may be necessary to convene the board of education of the district, or local director of the subdistrict, nor be expelled unless by a vote of two-thirds of said board of local directors, after the parent or guardian of the offending pupil shall have been notified of the proposed expulsion, and permitted to be heard against the same; and no scholar shall be suspended or expelled from the privilege of schools beyond the current term: *Provided*, that each board of education shall have power to admit other persons, not under six years of age, upon such terms or upon the payment of such tuition as they prescribe; and boards of education of city, village or special districts shall also have power to admit, without charge or tuition, persons within the school age who are members of the family of any freeholder whose residence is not within such district, if any part of such freeholder's homestead is within such district; and *Provided, further*, that the several boards of education shall make such assignments of the youth of their respective districts to the schools established by them, as will, in their opinion, best promote the interests of education in their districts; and *Provided, further*, that nothing contained in this section shall supersede or modify the provisions of Section 31 of an act entitled 'an act for the reorganization, supervision and maintenance of common schools, passed March 14, 1853, as amended March 18, 1864.'"

Provision is made by law for the establishment and maintenance of teachers' institutes, which are established for the professional improvement of teachers. At each session competent instructors and lecturers are employed to assist the State Commissioner, who is required by law to superintend and encourage such institutes. They are either county, city or joint institutes of two or more counties, and the examination fees paid by teachers to boards of examiners are devoted to the payment of the expenses incurred by these instructions.

Every youth in Ohio under twenty-one years of age may have the benefit of a public school education, and since the system of graded and high schools has been adopted, may obtain a general knowledge from the alphabet to the classics. The enumerated branches of study in the public schools of this State are about thirty-four, including mathematics and astronomy, French, German and the classics. Thus, Ohio, which was in the heart of the wilderness one hundred years ago, and has been a State only eighty-three years, now presents to the world not merely an unrivaled development of material prosperity, but a very good system of popular education.

CHAPTER VIII.

INTERNAL IMPROVEMENTS—HULL'S TRACE—OPENING OF THE PERRYSBURG & BELLEFONTAINE AND OTHER STATE ROADS THROUGH HANCOCK COUNTY—PIONEER COUNTY ROADS—FIRST BRIDGE BUILT ACROSS THE BLANCHARD AT FINDLAY, AND ITS SUCCESSORS—EARLY NAVIGATION ON THE BLANCHARD—FIRST MAIL ROUTE ESTABLISHED THROUGH THE COUNTY—JOSEPH GORDON, THE VETERAN MAIL CARRIER—HISTORY OF THE RAILROADS—THE PROPOSED BELLEFONTAINE & PERRYSBURG RAILROAD—FINDLAY BRANCH OF THE INDIANAPOLIS, BLOOMINGTON & WESTERN—LAKE ERIE & WESTERN—BALTIMORE & OHIO—MCCOMB, DESHLER & TOLEDO—NEW YORK, CHICAGO & ST. LOUIS—CLEVELAND, DELPHOS & ST. LOUIS NARROW GUAGE—TOLEDO, COLUMBUS & SOUTHERN—PROPOSED RAILROAD ENTERPRISES THAT HAVE FAILED DURING THE PAST FORTY-SEVEN YEARS.

DURING the earlier years of the county's history Hull's Trace was the principal highway through this portion of the State. It was opened in 1812 by the army of Gen. William Hull on its march from Urbana to the Maumee Rapids, and passed northward from the Scioto River through the center of Hancock County, traversing in its route what is now Madison, Eagle, Findlay and Allen Townships. Hull's Trace could scarcely be called a road, for only the underbrush and very small timber were cut out so as to allow the gun-carriages and baggage wagons of the army to pass between the larger trees; yet nearly all of the travel from Bellefontaine to the Maumee passed along this rude trace until after the organization of Wood County in 1820. Though the preliminary work of opening a highway from the Maumee southward *via* Fort Findlay to Bellefontaine was soon afterward commenced, it was nevertheless many years before anything that could be called a road was constructed through this county, and wagon paths blazed through the forest were the only means of communication between the scattered settlements.

Many, even of the oldest citizens of the county, are under the impression that the Perrysburg & Bellefontaine road is located on the site of Hull's Trace, but such is not the fact. The trace struck the south line of Hancock County, about half a mile west of this road, thence, passing northward, ran down the west side of Eagle Creek to Fort Findlay, where it crossed the Blanchard; thence in a northerly direction, about half a mile east of the Perrysburg road, until reaching the highlands on the middle branch of the Portage River, a short distance south of Van Buren; thence took a northwest course along the southwest side of that stream into Wood County, and thence onward to the Maumee. The vanguard of Hull's army followed the dryest ground it could find, and avoided, wherever possible, the swales which then abounded in this region.

Early in 1820 the General Assembly passed an act, ordering a State road to be laid out from the Maumee to Bellefontaine; and on the 27th of May, 1820, the commissioners of Wood County appointed Peter G. Oliver, "road commissioner for the county of Wood, to assist in laying out the State road from Bellefontaine to the foot of the rapids of the Miami of the Lake."

This is familiarly known as the Perrysburg & Bellefontaine, but sometimes called the Urbana, road, and is located on the range line between Ranges 10 and 11. Oliver entered into bond to lay out and let the contracts for opening said road from Fort Meigs to Fort Findlay, but it seems he did not fulfill the conditions laid down by the board, and December 12, 1820, the commissioners intimated that they would sue his bondsmen, but gave him till February 1, 1821, "to finish his road, provided that the logs should all be removed out of said road by the 1st of January, 1821." The road was cut out as far south as Fort Findlay by the time specified, and accepted by the commissioners February 21, 1821. From Fort Findlay to Bellefontaine the road was partly opened by John Enochs, of Logan County, about the same time. Nothing further relating to the road in this county appears on the Wood County records till June 6, 1826, when the commissioners ordered "that the sum of $400 of the 3 per cent fund appropriated for Hancock County, be expended on the Urbana road in the said county." This road could not have been satisfactorily opened through to Bellefontaine under the act of 1820, for another act was passed by the Legislature February 22, 1830, "to locate and establish a State road from Bellefontaine, in Logan County, to Fort Findlay, in Hancock County; and thence on the range line between Ranges 10 and 11, to the foot of the rapids of the Miami of Lake Erie." Thomas F. Johnston, Thomas R. McKnight and James M. Workman, were appointed State Commissioners to lay out said road, and Walter Clement did the surveying. The survey was commenced at the public square in Bellefontaine, May 20, 1830, and completed the following month, though the plat of the survey was not recorded in Wood County until about a year afterward. In August, 1830, the commissioners of Hancock County agreed that the tax levied for the several State roads in this county be expended on the Bellefontaine & Perrysburg, the Upper Sandusky, Findlay & Defiance, and the State roads from Marion to Findlay, each of which were ordered to be cut out thirty-two feet wide, and the ground cleared of all timber. Thus it will be seen that ten years after the Perrysburg & Bellefontaine road was first surveyed, it still remained comparatively unopened, but through the passing years it has been gradually improved, until it is to-day one of the best roads in the county.

In the fall of 1828 the State road from Marion to Findlay was laid out by Don Alonzo Hamlin and George H. Busby, State Commissioners, and Samuel Holmes, surveyor. It unites with the Bellefontaine & Perrysburg road immediately south of the Eagle Creek bridge near the south line of Findlay Township, and passes southeastward through this county. In August, 1830, the county commissioners let the contract for c[illegible]g out this road thirty-two feet wide and removing the timber therefrom.

The Upper Sandusky, Findlay & Defiance State road was surveyed early in 1830, and the contract for opening it let in August of that year. The survey of the State road from Lower Sandusky (Fremont) to Findlay was commenced in November, 1830, by John Bell and Daniel Tindle, commissioners, and David Camp, surveyor. Rome (now Fostoria), was afterward laid out on this road. The Findlay & Port Clinton State road was surveyed in the fall of 1831 by David Camp, the State Commissioners being William L. Henderson, Joseph Hall and Ezekiel Price. This road runs in a northeast direction from Findlay to Port Clinton in Sandusky County. On the 6th of February, 1832, the Legislature passed an act to establish

State roads through several counties, Hancock being one of those named in said act. Under this act, Squire Carlin, Samuel Jacobs and Picket Doughte, State Commissioners, with William L. Henderson as surveyor, laid out the Findlay, Lima & St. Mary's State road in the fall of 1832. The State road from Findlay to Tiffin was laid out the same year, but it was not opened as we find it re-established in 1842 from Findlay to the east line of Marion Township, by order of the county commissioners. The Findlay & New Haven State road was established in the spring of 1833, beginning at Sandusky Street in Findlay, and running due east to New Haven, Huron Co. Case Brown was the State Commissioner, and T. C. Sweney, surveyor of this road. The Tiffin and Defiance State road was also laid out in the spring of 1833, by Jacob Foster, James Gordon and Christopher Sharp, commissioners, and William L. Henderson, surveyor. It passed westward through Rome and Risdon (now Fostoria), thence continued in a southwest course on the county ridge road surveyed in March, 1832, from the site of Risdon to the site of Van Buren; thence in the same general direction to the east line of Pleasant Township; thence inclined northwestwardly to the Putnam County line. In the spring of 1834, a State road was established from McCutchenville, *via* Big Spring, in Seneca County, to Findlay. Joseph C. Shannon, John C. De Witt and Frederick Waggoner were the commissioners in charge, and Thomas C. Sweney, surveyor. In 1835, a State road was laid out from Bucyrus toward Fort Wayne, Ind., passing through Williamstown in its route; and the same year the Findlay & Kalida State road was established; Charles W. O'Neal surveyed the latter road, and Parlee Carlin and James Taylor were the road commissioners. Some of these highways were afterward changed in places, and parts vacated to accommodate the people living along their respective routes, while several years elapsed before they were fully opened and fit for travel.

All of the earliest county roads, in Hancock County, were established under an act of the general assembly passed February 26, 1824, authorizing the opening and regulating of roads and highways within the State. The first road petition found on record, in this county, was presented to the commissioners June 1, 1829, for a public highway from the east line of the county to Findlay. The petitioners were John J. Hendricks, Justin Smith, Joseph Whiteman, James Beard, John Huff, John Beard, William Ebright, Sampson Dildine, John Williamson, Andrew Robb, Thomas Cole, David Hagerman, John Long, John Shoemaker and Mordecai Hammond. In September, 1829, the road was viewed by John Huff, John J. Hendricks and William Moreland, Jr., with William Taylor as surveyor; Peter George, James Beard, Joshua Powell and John Boyd, chainmen; and John Long, Philip Ebright and Norman Chamberlain, markers. The road was established by the commissioners September 16, 1829. It began at Jacob Smith's on the county line (now in Wyandot County), and is the present road running westward through Vanlue to the Blanchard; thence passing down the northeast side of the river a few miles, when it crosses to the west side, and thence follows the meanders of the Blanchard into Findlay.

The second petition was presented June 7, 1830, for a road commencing on the line between Hancock and Hardin Counties, near the section line dividing sections 35 and 36, Delaware Township, thence down the west side of the Blanchard to Godfrey Wolford's mill in section 11, where it crossed the river, and continued down the east side of the stream through



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the site of Mt. Blanchard until it intersected the county road to Findlay, laid out the previous fall, near the house of John J. Hendricks in Section 12, Amanda Township. The petition was signed by Aquilla Gilbert, Asa Lake, Jesse Gilbert, Chauncy Fuller, Reuben W. Hamlin, Godfrey Wolford, John Wolford, Josiah Elder, William J. Greer, William J. Greer, Jr., John Rose, Asa M. Lake, George W. Wolford, John Elder, Ephraim Elder, Absalom Elder, Andrew Robb, Justin Smith, Amos Beard, William Ebright, Nathan Williams, James Gibson, David Egbert and Joseph W. Egbert. The commissioners appointed Thomas Thompson, James Beard and Peter George, viewers, and Wilson Vance, surveyor, to lay out said road; Elijah Beard and Charles Gibson were employed as chain carriers, and Godfrey Wolford, marker. All of the foregoing were pioneers of Delaware and Amanda Townships. The road was surveyed in July, 1830, and established as a public highway April 18, 1831.

In March, 1831, a county road was laid out, from the Perrysburg & Bellefontaine State road, south of Chamberlin's Hill, up the west side of Eagle Creek to Section 14, Madison Township, where it crossed that stream, and upon reaching the center line of Section 23 turned southeastward and continued in that direction till it intersected the Perrysburg & Bellefontaine road near the southern boundary of the county. This road followed Hull's Trace from Chamberlin's Hill to section 23, Madison Township, but the north part of it was afterward vacated. The petition, as presented to the commissioners March 7, 1831, was signed by the following well-remembered pioneers: Benjamin O. Whitman, Jacob, Joseph, John and Jacob Helms, Jr., John, Adam and Elijah Woodruff, Conrad Line, John Decker, Nathaniel Hill, Simeon and Thomas Ransbottom, John and Griffin Tullis, James West, Joshua Garrett, Abner Hill, Abel Tanner, Aaron Kinion, Alpheus Ralston, John Boyd, Leonard Tritch, Squire and Parlee Carlin, Henry Shaw, John C. Wickham, Major Bright, William Dulin and Isaac Johnson. Of these Squire Carlin and Alpheus Ralston are the only survivors. The commissioners appointed William L. Henderson surveyor, and Jacob Foster, Peter George and John Bashore, viewers. John Tullis, Adam Woodruff and Elijah Woodruff acted as chainmen, and Abel Tanner, marker. The road was established June 6, 1831, and was a little over fourteen miles in length.

The Benton Ridge road was the next highway established by the commissioners, in compliance with a petition laid before the board in the fall of 1831, and signed by Squire and Parlee Carlin, Thomas F. Johnston, Levi Williamson, James Taylor, John Boyd, Matthew Reighly, William Taylor, Wilson Vance, John Groves, Joseph A. Sargent, William Dulin, Joshua Jones, William Moreland, Samuel Gordon, Joseph Johnson, William Fowler, Henry Lamb, Isaac Baker, Thomas Cole, Minor T. Wickham, Richard Wade, Zebulon Lee, Philip Cramer, John Mullen, John Cramer, Jacob Powell, Solomon Foglesong, Jacob Fox, Simon Cramer, William Lytle and Philip Cramer, Jr. The viewers appointed to lay out said road were Peter George, Isaac Baker and Thomas F. Johnston; William L. Henderson, surveyor; Frederick Henderson, Jonathan Parker, Stephen Lee, Reuben Baker, John Cramer, Henry Smaltz and William Greenly, chainmen; Minor T. Wickham, Henry Baker, Philip Cramer and Adam Cramer, markers. The survey was completed in December, 1831, and March 5, 1832, the road was established by the board of commissioners. It begins at the west end

of Main Cross street, and runs northwest about a mile and a half to the Sand Ridge; thence, turning abruptly southwestward, follows the ridge to the village of Benton, and thence in the same general direction to the Putnam County line. Immediately west of Findlay was a low, wet piece of ground, and instead of running due west on a line with Main Cross Street, the viewers concluded to avoid this swale by deviating toward the north and following the higher ground. Throughout pioneer days the Benton Ridge road was one of the best public highways in the county, especially during wet seasons when many other roads became almost impassable.

In February, 1832, William L. Henderson laid out a road, beginning at the house of Aquilla Gilbert, in Section 24, Amanda Township, thence running northeast, till it intersected the State road from Upper Sandusky to Findlay, at the farm of Judge Jacob Smith, near the Crawford County line, but now in Wyandot County. Joseph Johnson, John Rose and Joshua Powell were the viewers; Henry Treese and Andrew Beck, chainmen, and Henry George and Aquilla Gilbert, markers. The petitioners for this road were Adam Allspach, John Fenstemaker, Andrew Beck, Thomas Cole, Samuel Gordon, Thomas Thompson, Samuel Sargent, Elijah and James Beard, Joseph Egbert, Michael Misamore, Joseph Craig, Aquilla Gilbert, Isaac Litzenberger, John Condron, John Longwith, Asa M. Lake, William J. Greer, Henry Treese, William Ebright, William Taylor, Godfrey Wolford and Elisha Brown. The road was established in March, 1832, and is one of the principal highways traversing Amanda Township.

A county road was laid out in March, 1832, on the ridge from Risdon (now Fostoria) to the site of Van Buren, and established by the commissioners as a public highway the following June. Christian Barnd, Jacob Foster and Thomas Slight were the viewers, and William L. Henderson, surveyor. The petition for this road was signed by John and Micajah Gorsuch, David Heaston, Thomas Kelly, Michael Thomas, John Norris, James G. Wiseman, Elijah and John McRill, John Hiestand, John Burman, John Trout and Abraham Schoonover. In the spring of 1833 the Tiffin & Defiance State road was established over the same route, and continued on westward into Putnam County.

Another early county road was established in Union Township in the spring of 1833. The petition was presented to the commissioners March 4 of that year, with the following names appended thereto: Wenman Wade, William Fox, Jacob Burket, Henry Smaltz, Philip, John, Simon and Philip Cramer, Jr., William M. Colclo, Alexander Hardin, Solomon Foglesong, Jacob Fox, Sr., Jacob Fox, Jr., Isaac Comer, John and Thomas Mullen and Solomon and Stephen Lee. This road commences at the Findlay & Lima State Road, near the southwest corner of Section 27, Union Township, thence runs north nearly two miles to the southwest corner of Section 15; thence northeast down the northwest side of Ottawa Creek, crossing that stream below the mouth of Tiderishi Creek; thence up the northwest side of Tiderishi about a mile; thence due north to the Benton Ridge road. It was surveyed by William L. Henderson; John Byal and Asher Wickham, viewers; Philip Cramer and Peter Folk, chainmen, and Simon Cramer, marker. From this time forward roads were rapidly established in every part of the county. Whenever a few cabins made their appearance in any portion of the county, or a new township was organized, a petition was presented for a road, and always granted. For many years after the organization of the

county one of the principal businesses of the commissioners was granting road petitions and establishing public highways. But even the best roads were at times almost impassable, and outside of Findlay Township very little stone piking has yet been done in this county, and mud roads are the rule instead of the exception.

The lack of means with which to build bridges, was one of the great drawbacks in this county, and during high water the Blanchard, and doubtless some of the smaller streams, had to be crossed in canoes or rude boats improvised for the purpose. A few cheap bridges were built in some of the townships before the first one across the Blanchard at Findlay was constructed, but they were usually temporary structures in danger of being swept away by the first freshet. In March, 1842, the commissioners resolved to receive proposals for building two bridges over the Blanchard; one at Findlay, and another on the Findlay & New Haven State road, in Marion Township. Aquilla Gilbert, one of the board, filed a protest against the proposed improvements, claiming that Findlay was getting more than her share of the public moneys, and naming bridges that had been built in other parts of the county by the townships wherein they were located, without any assistance from the county. The contract for constructing a bridge at Findlay was let in April, 1842, to Squire Carlin and Horace Eaton for the sum of $1,600, and the bridge was completed and opened for traffic in the fall of 1843. It was an open, wooden bridge, supported by wooden abutments and trestles, and was used nearly seven years before being replaced by a better one.

On the 19th of April, 1850, a contract for a new, wooden, covered "lattice bridge" over the Blanchard at Findlay, was let to Jesse Wheeler, William Klamroth and Edwin B. Vail, to be completed on or before November 15, 1850. This bridge was 180 feet long, and eighteen feet above low water mark, with stone abutments and one stone pier in the center of the river. It was a very substantial structure, and cost about $3,000. Besides the wagon track there was a foot path on each side, and when the bridge was finished it was regarded with much pride by the citizens of Findlay. It did good service for nearly twenty-three years, but the day of its usefulness finally passed away, and it was succeeded in 1873-74 by the handsome iron bridge now spanning the stream. The old bridge was sold to Dr. D. W. Cass, for $105, while the stone in the abutments and pier brought about $900. Some of the timbers of this bridge were utilized in the erection of the grand stand on the fair grounds.

The sum of $940 was expended in the erection of bridges in Hancock County in 1845; and about the time the second bridge over the Blanchard at Findlay was built, many good bridges were constructed in different parts of the county. The time had come when the people could no longer afford to plod along in the old way. The previous temporary structures were replaced by substantial ones, and new bridges made their appearance in many places. With the growth in population and wealth, good bridges became a necessity, but years elapsed before all this was accomplished, and the work still goes on from year to year. Nineteen wagon bridges now span the Blanchard within the limits of Hancock County, two of which are iron, while two more iron bridges cross the stream on the boundary lines between Hancock and Hardin, and Hancock and Putnam Counties, half the expense of which was borne by this county. Bridges have also been built wherever any of the

main traveled roads cross the smaller streams; and within the last fifteen years many substantial iron bridges have replaced the old wooden ones over Eagle, Ottawa, Portage and perhaps other streams in different parts of the county.

As the present handsome iron bridge spanning the Blanchard at Findlay is recognized as the finest in the county, it will not be inappropriate to mention it briefly in this connection. August 1, 1873, the commissioners entered into a contract with the Wrought Iron Bridge Company of Canton, Ohio, to erect a one span iron bridge over the river at Findlay, 164 feet long, with a roadway twenty feet wide in the clear, and a footway on each side six feet wide in the clear, for the sum of $10,889.60. On the same day the contract for the stone abutments was awarded to Louis Bruner at the rate of $7 per perch of twenty-five solid feet, which, when completed, together with the east wing, came to $4,008.90. The bridge was finished and accepted by the commissioners March 27, 1874, and warranted by the company for thirty years from that date. It is a substantial structure and a credit to the builders, as well as a lasting monument to the wisdom and public spirit of the board under whom it was built, and to the people whose generous liberality rendered such a fine public improvement possible.

Before the era of roads and bridges in this portion of the State, much of the goods brought to Findlay came in pirogues from Perrysburg *via* the Maumee, Auglaize and Blanchard Rivers, while furs and other products of the then sparsely settled country were often shipped to the lake over the same route by the traders and merchants of the village. A Government survey made in 1816 pronounced the Blanchard navigable from Fort Findlay to the Auglaize, and many of the pioneers who located along its banks once regarded it as a navigable stream. The only boats, however, that have ever been used in the transportation of goods upon the Blanchard, were the clumsy, old-fashioned pirogues, made from the bodies of large trees, and much resembling a huge trough. A little later goods and products were wagoned to and from Sandusky City, and goods shipped at New York came *via* Buffalo and the lake to Sandusky, usually arriving at Findlay from two to four weeks afterward.

The first mail route through Hancock County was established about sixty-six years ago, from Bellefontaine *via* Fort McArthur and Findlay to Perrysburg, with Joseph Gordon as mail agent. Gordon was born in Allegheny County, Penn., January 29, 1784, and in 1801, ere reaching manhood, began his career as a horseback mail carrier in Kentucky. In 1804 he carried his first mail into Ohio from Wheeling, W. Va., some fifty miles, and his route was soon afterward extended to Chillicothe, *via* St. Clairsville, Zanesville and New Lancaster. He subsequently located in Bellefontaine, Ohio, and in 1820 commenced his horseback weekly mail service from that town to Perrysburg. The Findlay office was established in February, 1823, and was then, and for years afterward, the only postoffice between Bellefontaine and the Maumee—a distance of over eighty miles through a dense, unbroken forest, where the hum of civilization was yet unheard. Gordon was the only carrier over this route till the close of 1839, when a change occurred and his route ended at Findlay. He continued in the service from Bellefontaine to Findlay—some eight or ten years longer or until the route was abandoned. Gordon is remembered as a kind-hearted, generous, trustworthy man, and was of incalculable benefit to the early settlers of Hancock

County in doing errands for them at Perrysburg and Bellefontaine. It is a sad criticism on our nineteenth century civilization that this veteran of the mails was compelled by force of circumstances to spend the evening of his eventful life as a pauper in the infirmary of Logan County.

The railroads are the next in order of time, and perhaps the most important feature of the county's internal improvements. In March, 1839, the General Assembly passed an act "to authorize the commissioners of Wood and Hancock Counties to subscribe to the capital stock of the Bellefontaine & Perrysburg Railroad Company and to borrow money." Under the provisions of this act the commissioners of Hancock, at a special meeting held April 26, 1839, decided to subscribe 1,000 shares, amounting to $100,000, to the capital stock of said company, and delegated Parlee Carlin a special agent to negotiate a loan for said amount in the city of New York or elsewhere, at a rate of interest not to exceed 6 per cent per annum, the bonds to be redeemed in not less than twenty nor more than thirty years. The loan was never negotiated, as the project vanished into air, and few of the present generation are aware that such an enterprise was ever contemplated.

The Findlay Branch of the Indianapolis, Bloomington & Western Railroad was the first railroad built through Hancock County. On the 19th of February, 1845, the Legislature passed "an act to authorize the commissioners of Hancock County to subscribe to the capital stock of the Mad River & Lake Erie Railroad Company the sum of $60,000, or such sum as shall be sufficient to construct a railway or branch from the main track of said railroad to the town of Findlay." The following month, in compliance with a provision of said act, the commissioners ordered the proposed measure be submitted to a vote of the citizens of Hancock at the succeeding April election. The people voted in favor of said subscription by 1,055 to 764, a majority of 291. On the 11th of April, 1845, the board subscribed $60,000 to the capital stock of said railroad, and on the 22d the first installment of $30,000 in county bonds was issued. The same month Wilson Vance, William Taylor, John Patterson and William L. Henderson were appointed by the commissioners as their special agents to look after the interests of the county in its dealings with the Mad River & Lake Erie Railroad Company. In June, 1845, John Ewing and Jacob Barnd were added to the list, but the latter, dying soon afterward, Squire Carlin was appointed, September 11, 1845, to fill the vacancy. On the same date the commissioners added $15,000 to the former subscription, making a total of $75,000 subscribed by Hancock County toward the enterprise.

On the 19th of August, 1846, the railroad company, at a meeting held in Kenton, agreed to accept said subscription, the county to retain and negotiate the bonds, and construct a branch railroad from Carey to Findlay; "*Provided* that said commissioners will within four years from this date, construct said branch railway as aforesaid, free of expense to this company, and will also pledge therefor to this company the stock by them subscribed as aforesaid, there to remain until said branch railway be completed; and *Provided, further*, that said branch railway shall be constructed as aforesaid, under and pursuant to the directions of this company, at a cost not exceeding the estimate of the engineer of the same, to-wit: $86,429.29, and when completed to be the property of this company; and *Provided, further*, that said commissioners furnish and convey to this company, ground, free of ex-

pense (not less than two acres in quantity), at said Findlay for a depot, and of such shape as may be surveyed by said engineer therefor, and also, free of expense to this company, secure the permanent right of way for said branch railway." It will no doubt surprise many of our readers that such a one-sided proposition was acceptable to the county, which was actually building a railroad and giving it to the company; but the people were so anxious for the road to be built that the proposition was gladly accepted by the commissioners. On the 22d of September, 1846, the board appointed John Patterson, John Ewing and Hiram Smith, railroad agents, to transact all business in the building and completion of said branch from Findlay to Carey. They were authorized to borrow money, obtain the right-of-way, put the work under contract, and carry out all other business necessary and expedient for the furtherance of the project. In March, 1847, Hiram Smith resigned, and Charles W. O'Neal and William L. Henderson were appointed additional railroad agents, and, with Messrs. Patterson and Ewing, served till March, 1851, when the office was terminated by order of the commissioners.

The road was completed in November, 1849, and trains began running ere the close of that month. It was one of those old-fashioned strap-iron roads, similar to those first built through this State. Upon the bed, sleepers were laid lengthwise, placed apart the width of the track, the ties being laid crosswise on top of said sleepers. Two strips of timber were then laid on top of the ties, also lengthwise, and let into the same immediately over the sleepers, and upon these strips the rails, made of five-eighths strap-iron, were fastened. When all was finished the county had expended only $45,500 of the amount subscribed, leaving a balance of $29,500 of the subscription yet unissued. In 1852–53, an effort was made to furnish the road with T rails, the company making a proposition to the county for the latter to issue bonds to carry out the improvement, and the former to issue railroad stock to the county for said amount, and guarantee that the dividends on said stock would be sufficient to pay the interest on the bonds during their term of existence. The railway company further agreed to considerably reduce the rates of transportation. The board agreed to the proposition, but the project finally collapsed, and nothing was done at that time.

Though the subject of T railing the branch was afterward often talked of, it was not till twenty years after the road was built that the work was accomplished. In the summer of 1868, the railway company made a proposition to the county that if the latter would contribute $12,000 toward the enterprise the company would T rail, ballast and put the branch in good condition. Upon examining the records it was discovered that $29,500 of the original subscription remained unissued, and that the county was still liable for this amount, whenever the company complied with the original conditions, and constructed the road on a permanent basis. This was brought to the attention of the commissioners in October, 1868, who, after taking counsel, were satisfied the county was liable for said amount, and gladly issued the $12,000 in bonds to assist in carrying through the much needed improvement, the company releasing the county from all further obligation in connection with the original subscription. The work of T railing commenced in the spring of 1869, and October 21 of that year a dinner was given at the Crook House to the president of the road and board of directors on their visit to Findlay in honor of its completion.

The large frame warehouse at the depot was built before the road was finished, and as soon as completed the latter was leased by E. P. Jones, who operated the road and warehouse for about nine years. The company then took charge of the road, and engaged J. S. Patterson as their agent in Findlay. During these years this branch line was of incalculable benefit to Findlay, far more indeed than the average citizen is willing to admit. It supplied the town with shipping facilities, and thus built up its trade and population, thereby greatly enhancing the value of real estate. The road originally extended west on Crawford Street nearly to Main. From Findlay it runs in a southeast direction across the townships of Findlay, Marion and Amanda to Carey in Wyandot County, also crossing the southwest corner of Big Lick Township in its route, Vanlue being the only town on the line in this county. Originally operated by the Mad River & Lake Erie Railroad Company, the name was changed by decree of the common pleas court of Erie County, February 23, 1858, to the Sandusky, Dayton & Cincinnati Railroad Company, and the branch went by that name. In January, 1866, the road was sold, and in July following reorganized as the Sandusky & Cincinnati Railroad Company. On the 11th of January, 1868, a decree of the common pleas court of Erie County again changed the name of the company to the Cincinnati, Sandusky & Cleveland. This company operated the road over thirteen years, and March 8, 1881, leased its lines to the Indianapolis, Bloomington & Western Railroad Company for the term of ninety-nine years to go into effect on the 1st of May following. The branch from Carey to Findlay is about fifteen miles in length, and is now known as the Findlay Branch of the Indianapolis, Bloomington & Western Railroad, which has become one of the great trunk lines of the West.

The Lake Erie & Western was the second railway built through this county, and it is yet the most important road that enters Findlay. It had its inception early in 1853, and was first conceived and advocated by Henry Brown, of Findlay, then a young lawyer, and one of the editors of the Hancock *Courier*. He published an editorial in the *Courier* advocating the construction of a railroad from Green Springs *via* Rome (now Fostoria), Findlay, Lima and St. Mary's to the Indiana State line, and sent a number of the papers containing the article to leading men along the proposed route. Charles W. Foster received one of the papers, and at once seeing the feasibility of the project drove over to Findlay, and, after talking the matter over with some of the monied men of the town, took Mr. Brown in his buggy and talked up a railroad feeling along the line as far southwest as St. Mary's. On their return a delegation from Fremont met Mr. Foster at Rome, and he told them what had been done. Fremont did not want the road to go to Green Springs, and induced Mr. Foster to favor their town instead. On the 25th of April, 1853, the Fremont & Indiana Railroad Company was incorporated, with a capital of $200,000, by Charles W. Foster, L. Q. Rawson, Sardis Birchard, James Justice and John R. Pease. The charter called for "the construction of a railroad from the town of Fremont, in the county of Sandusky, through the counties of Sandusky and Seneca to the town of Rome, in said county of Seneca; thence through the counties of Seneca and Hancock to the town of Findlay, in said county of Hancock; thence through the counties of Hancock, Allen, Auglaize, Mercer and Darke, to the west line of the State of Ohio, in said county of Darke."

The people of Hancock County, at an election held in the spring of 1853,

voted to subscribe $100,000 to the capital stock of the Dayton & Michigan Railroad Company, if said road was built through this county. The Dayton & Michigan and the Fremont & Indiana Companies entered into an arrangement for the latter company to take advantage of this vote, and get possession of the bonds voted for the purpose of building the Dayton & Michigan road, which was never really intended to be located through this county. In August, 1853, 100 bonds of $1,000 each were signed and delivered by the commissioners to L. Q. Rawson, president of the Fremont & Indiana Railroad Company, though the transfer was bitterly opposed by some leading citizens of Findlay. The commissioners also turned over to the same company $51,150 of stock and bonds held by the county in the Mad River & Lake Erie Railroad. The opponents of this transfer at once notified all the money centers that the $100,000 in Hancock County bonds issued to the Fremont & Indiana Railroad Company were fradulent, and would not be paid by the county. The company were therefore unable to sell them and in 1856 returned to the county $91,000 of the amount, also the stock and bonds which they held in the Mad River & Lake Erie Railroad. The remaining $9,000 of county bonds had been negotiated, and the party into whose hands they fell afterward brought suit against the county and collected the full amount of their face. The loss of these bonds was a severe stroke to the Fremont & Indiana Railroad Company, but the principal capitalists of the enterprise, L. Q. Rawson, James Moore, Charles W. Foster, D. J. Cory and Squire Carlin, were experienced business men, and determined to go forward with the project.

The enterprise, however, progressed slowly because of the financial depression of 1856–57, and the lack of proper encouragement from the people of the country through which the line was located. In the spring of 1857 the company began an effort to raise money along the route by personal subscription to purchase iron for the road. The iron and rolling stock was finally contracted for in the summer of 1857, but financial difficulties soon afterward stopped all further progress. In 1858 work went forward slowly along the eastern portion of the road, and by January, 1859, the track was completed from Fremont to Fostoria, and ere the close of that month a daily train began running between those towns. The following June a daily hack line was established from Findlay to Fostoria, connecting with the trains to and from Fremont. In the summer of 1859 the railroad bridge spanning the Blanchard was commenced, and track laying between Findlay and Fostoria went forward during the summer and fall, reaching to within one mile of Findlay, and early in the winter of 1859–60, trains began running to that point. The track was completed to the Findlay depot, on Main Cross Street, in March, 1860, and a train arrived and departed daily from Findlay. In November, 1859, the large elevator near the depot was completed and put in operation by George W. Myers, and when the road was finished to the depot it found the elevator ready for business. Here the enterprise collapsed and the road was finished no further for more than twelve years.

In December, 1860, the road was sold, and, January 21, 1861, the purchasers organized a new corporation, under the name of the Fremont, Lima & Union Railroad Company. On the 4th of February, 1865, this company was consolidated with the Lake Erie & Pacific Railroad Company, of Indiana, as the Lake Erie & Louisville Railroad Company. In July, 1871, the road was again sold, and the following November that portion of the line located



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in Ohio, and extending from Fremont to Union City, was reorganized as the Fremont, Lima & Union Railroad Company, and that lying in Indiana as the Lake Erie & Louisville Railroad Company. These companies were once more consolidated, April 12, 1872, as the Lake Erie & Louisville Railroad Company.

In the meantime considerable effort was made to complete the road to Lima. On the 10th of May, 1870, the company held a meeting at Fremont and made a proposition to complete the road by February 1, 1871, on condition that the people along the line would subscribe $100,000 toward the enterprise, to be paid as follows: $25,000 when the road was finished to Rawson; $25,000 on reaching Bluffton; $25,000 on getting to Beaver Dam, and the remaining $25,000 when the first train passed over the road to Lima. Meetings were held all along the line to stir up an interest in the subject, and raise the subscription asked for by the company. But it proved slow work, and the effort was ultimately a failure. In January, 1872, a conditional contract was made by the company with Perkins, Livingston & Post to furnish iron and equipments to put the road in running order whenever the company secured sufficient local aid to grade, bridge and tie the line, which it was thought would take about $100,000 to accomplish. During the spring the route from Findlay to St. Mary's was resurveyed, and, in June, Findlay Township voted to subscribe $78,600; Liberty, $5,000; Eagle, $10,000, and Union $20,000 toward the enterprise. Work began at once, and July 15, 1872 agreements were entered into between the railroad company and said townships, by which the former, in consideration of said subscriptions, promised to complete the road to Lima within one year from that date. L. Q. Rawson, Charles W. Foster, D. J. Cory and Squire Carlin represented the company in these agreements.

Track-laying was now pushed forward rapidly, and early in September, 1872, the first train reached Rawson. Before the close of the same month the road was finished to Bluffton, and the last rail connecting Findlay with Lima was laid November 21, 1872. On the 29th a dinner to celebrate the event was given at the City Hall in Lima by the citizens of that town, the officers of the road and many leading business men from Fremont, Fostoria, Findlay, and other towns on the road, being present at the celebration. Though the weather was very cold, every station along the line was crowded to witness and cheer the loaded train as it sped onward toward its destination. Regular trains were put on soon afterward, and by the spring of 1873 its business was booming. In September of that year the road was opened through to St. Mary's. Thus, after long years of vexatious waiting the people of Hancock County had at last a good competing railroad, and were accordingly happy. In February, 1877, the road was sold, and the company reorganized under the old name of the Lake Erie & Louisville. In August, 1879, it was consolidated with the Indianapolis & Sandusky Railroad Company of Indiana, under the name of the Lake Erie & Western Railway Company, and the following December that corporation absorbed the Indianapolis, Lafayette & Muncie Railroad Company. The link between Fremont and Sandusky City was afterward built, and the company has now a continuous line from Sandusky, Ohio, to Bloomington, Ill., a distance of 353 miles. It enters Hancock County near its northeast corner in the city of Fostoria, and taking a southwest direction through Arcadia, Findlay, Rawson and Cory, leaves the county near the northwest corner of Orange

Township, its main line within this county being about thirty miles in length.

The Baltimore & Ohio Railroad was built through the northeast corner of Hancock County in 1873, and opened for business January 1, 1874. Though it is one of the greatest trunk lines of the United States, and traverses a few miles of Hancock County territory, it can scarcely be regarded as one of her roads; yet the Baltimore & Ohio is of great benefit to the northern portion of this county, crossing Wood County from east to west only a few miles north of Hancock, thus furnishing first-class shipping facilities for the people of that section.

The McComb, Deshler & Toledo Railroad Company was incorporated June 2, 1879, by a coterie of McComb citizens, with a capital of $20,000, for the purpose of building a railroad from McComb, Hancock County, to Deshler, in Henry County. This company entered into an agreement with the Cincinnati, Hamilton & Dayton Railroad Company to furnish right of way, grade, bridge and tie the road, and the latter agreed to lay the track and operate the road perpetually as a branch of the main line. Grading was commenced in the spring of 1880, and on the 24th of November, following, the first construction train came into McComb. On the next day (Thanksgiving) the event was celebrated at McComb by a grand dinner and a flow of oratory, a large delegation coming over the road from Deshler, and a few from Findlay to participate in the happy festivities, more than 1,000 outsiders being present on the occasion. Regular trains soon began running, and the road has since proved a great convenience to the northwestern portion of the county. It takes a northwest course from McComb to Deshler, passing through the village of Deweyville in its route, and about five miles of the road is located in Hancock County, the whole distance being nearly nine miles.

Many years ago the Tiffin & Fort Wayne Air Line Railroad Company was chartered to build a road from Tiffin, Ohio, to Fort Wayne, Ind. A road bed was completed across the north part of Hancock County, but the project then collapsed. In June, 1872, the New York Western Railway Company and the Continental Railway Company of Pennsylvania were consolidated and reorganized at Indianapolis as the Continental Railway Company, to construct a great trunk line through Ohio, Indiana, Illinois and Iowa. The old bed of the Tiffin & Fort Wayne in this county was selected and regraded in the fall of 1872 as the route of the Continental Railroad, but that is as far as the enterprise ever got. The New York, Chicago & St. Louis Railway Company was incorporated in 1880 to construct a line from New York to Chicago. Findlay made an effort to secure this road, but it was finally located over the old Continental route in this county, from Arcadia westward, but running northeast from Arcadia to Fostoria parallel with the Lake Erie & Western road. Work began on this section of the line in the spring of 1881, and early in July the road was finished through this county and construction trains were in full operation. The "Nickel Plate," as it is commonly called, is one of the leading trunk lines of the country, and supplies the north part of the county with excellent railroad accommodations. It runs southwest from Fostoria to Arcadia; thence due west through Cass, Allen, Portage and Pleasant Townships. Fostoria, Arcadia, Stuartville, McComb and Shawtown are the towns located on this road in Hancock, and twenty-five miles of the line are within the county limits.

The Cleveland, Delphos & St. Louis Narrow Gauge Railroad was chartered March 9, 1881, and during the summer work was commenced along the line, which had previously been located through this county from Delphos to Carey *via* Arlington and Mt. Blanchard. The road was finished from Bluffton to Arlington early in the fall of 1882, and in December the construction train reached Mt. Blanchard. January 1, 1883, the road was formally opened by an excursion from Delphos to Mt. Blanchard, and the following summer the line was completed to Carey. From Bluffton, in Allen County, the road runs due east across the north parts of Orange, Van Buren, Madison and Delaware Townships to Mt. Blanchard; thence takes a northeast course through the south part of Amanda Township to Carey, Wyandot County. Besides Mt. Blanchard and Arlington, two villages—Jenera and Cordelia—have since been laid out on this road in Van Buren and Orange Townships, respectively. About twenty-one miles of the road are within the boundaries of this county, and, though it is an accommodation to the people living along its route, it will always be of very limited utility for shipping purposes until changed to a standard gauge. It is now called the Delphos Division of the Air Line Railroad, and as there is some talk of making it a standard gauge, the name will doubtless be again changed before the publication of this work.

The Toledo, Columbus & Southern Railroad, formerly the Toledo & Indianapolis, was chartered in May, 1881, and, in the winter of 1881–82, the right of way was obtained between Toledo and Findlay. All of the towns on the proposed line subscribed liberally toward the project, Findlay subscribing $25,000. Hon. T. P. Brown, of Toledo, was the leading spirit of the enterprise, and Patrick Dowling had the general contract for building and equipping the line. Work was commenced in the summer of 1882, and pushed rapidly, as the subscriptions were based on the completion of the road before the close of January, 1883. The first rail was laid December 15, and the first locomotive ran into Bowling Green from Toledo on Christmas day. Early in January, 1883, the track was built to within a couple of miles of Findlay, and soon afterward reached the northern part of that city. January 30, the connecting rail was laid some fifteen miles north of Findlay in Wood County, and on the following day the event was celebrated by a dinner at that point. Though the last rail was in position the road was not then by any means completed, the bed being still in a very crude condition. But it was vitally necessary for the company to thus fulfill, technically at least, the conditions under which the subscriptions were obtained. The first through train came over the road from Toledo to Findlay February 7, 1883, but regular traffic did not commence before spring, and by May 15 the road was in full operation. A temporary depot was fitted up near the track of the Lake Erie & Western Railroad, east of Main Street, in North Findlay, and the new road got no farther till the summer of 1885. The right of way was then obtained southward to the track of the Indianapolis, Bloomington & Western Railroad; a bridge was built over the Blanchard and the road extended across the river to the track of the latter railroad, whence it runs into the depot of said road. Late in 1885 surveys were made southward toward Columbus, and it is claimed to be only a question of time when this railroad will be built to the capital of the State. It enters the county from the north about a quarter of a mile east of the Perrysburg & Bellefontaine Road, and runs due south through

the villages of Van Buren and Stuartville to Findlay. The route south of Findlay most likely to be selected, is also parallel with and a little east of the Bellefontaine road, *via* Arlington, Williamstown and Dunkirk to Kenton, though a survey has also been made southeastward through Mt. Blanchard. Officers of the company state that the road will probably be extended to Kenton, and perhaps Columbus, in 1886; and though it is now of great advantage to the county, it will then offer far better facilities to both travelers and shippers.

In closing the history of the railroads it only remains to notice briefly the several roads that have been surveyed through this county, but never built. Mention has been made of the proposed Bellefontaine & Perrysburg Railroad, also of the survey made by the Dayton & Michigan Company, which was never really intended to be located through Hancock, and the Tiffin & Fort Wayne and the Continental Roads. In 1870 the Ohio & Michigan Railroad Company surveyed a road from Sturgis, Mich., *via* Napoleon and McComb, Ohio, to Findlay; but that is as far as the project ever got. In 1870–71 considerable effort was made to get the Mansfield & Coldwater road located through Findlay, but Fostoria got the prize; yet though the road was graded and some of the rails put down, it was never completed. The Toledo & Columbus Railroad Company was chartered, in 1872, to build a road between the cities named, *via* Findlay. Liberal subscriptions were voted by the several townships of the county, through which the line was located, but the supreme court afterward declared the act unconstitutional under which the subscriptions were made, and the scheme fell through. In January, 1880, the Columbus, Findlay & Northwestern Railroad Company was incorporated, to construct a line from Columbus, Ohio, *via* Findlay to Coldwater, Mich. Meetings were held and the people living along the route apparently took a deep interest in the success of the measure, but after a brief period of enthusiasm the enterprise collapsed and nothing has since been heard of it. The foregoing comprises all of the proposed roads, and though some of them would doubtless have been an advantage, the county now possesses good railroad communications with every portion of the country.

CHAPTER IX.

MILITARY HISTORY OF HANCOCK COUNTY—WAR OF 1812—MARCH OF HULL'S ARMY FROM URBANA TO THE MAUMEE RIVER—SITE OF FORT NECESSITY, AND LINE OF HULL'S TRACE—FORT FINDLAY ERECTED AND GARRISONED—DESCRIPTION OF THE FORT—GEN. TUPPER'S CAMPAIGN—INDIANS PURSUE CAPT. OLIVER FROM FORT MEIGS TO FORT FINDLAY—EVACUATION OF THE FORT BY CAPT. THOMAS, AND HIS MURDER BY THE INDIANS—PIONEER REMINISCENCES OF FORT FINDLAY, AND ITS FINAL DESTRUCTION—MEXICAN WAR—THE GREAT REBELLION—SUBLIME PATRIOTISM OF THE PEOPLE—ENTHUSIASTIC DEMONSTRATIONS IN FINDLAY AT THE OUTBREAK OF THE WAR—STIRRING SCENES OF PREPARATION FOR THE CONFLICT—ENROLLMENT AND ORGANIZATION OF VOLUNTEERS, AND THEIR SUBSEQUENT DEPARTURE FOR CLEVELAND—BRIEF SKETCHES OF THE COMMANDS WHEREIN THE SOLDIERS OF HANCOCK SERVED, ALSO THE NAMES AND PROMOTIONS OF COMMISSIONED OFFICERS IN EACH FROM THIS COUNTY—NUMBER OF VOLUNTEERS FROM EACH TOWNSHIP UP TO SEPTEMBER 1, 1862, AND TOTAL ESTIMATED NUMBER OF SOLDIERS FROM THE WHOLE COUNTY DURING THE WAR—RELIEF AFFORDED BY THE COUNTY TO SOLDIERS' FAMILIES—GOOD WORK OF THE MILITARY COMMITTEES AND AID SOCIETIES—CLOSING SCENES OF THE REBELLION—CELEBRATION AT FINDLAY OVER THE CAPTURE OF RICHMOND AND THE SURRENDER OF LEE'S ARMY—JOY TURNED TO GRIEF BY THE ASSASSINATION OF LINCOLN—CONCLUSION.

NEARLY three-quarters of a century have elapsed since the arrogance of the English Government brought on the war of 1812, and though it ended five years before the erection of Hancock County, the territory embraced therein was very closely associated with the earliest stages of that struggle for the preservation of our national rights. On the 4th of June, 1812, a resolution was passed by Congress declaring war against England; on the 17th of the same month the bill passed the Senate, and two days afterward President Madison sent forth the edict. Ohio had been preparing for the conflict, and prior to the declaration of war troops began assembling at Dayton, Springfield, Urbana and other points in obedience to the call of Gov. Meigs, and Gen. William Hull was appointed to the chief command of these troops. On the 16th of June the army left Urbana on its march toward the Maumee Rapids, and Col. Duncan McArthur was ordered in advance to open a road through the forest from the Greenville Treaty line to the Scioto River, "where they built two block houses, which they named Fort McArthur, in honor of the officer whose regiment had opened the road. To this fort the whole army came on the 19th, and on the 21st Col. James Findlay was ordered to open the road as far as Blanchard's Fork, whither the army, excepting a guard left at Fort McArthur, again followed on the 22d. Here, amid rain and mud, another block-house was erected, which was named Fort Necessity. From this point the army soon after moved to Blanchard's Fork, where Col. Findlay had built a block-house, which was named in honor of that officer, and thence marched northward to the Maumee."* From the Greenville Treaty line to the Maumee Rapids the route of the army was through an unbroken

*American State Papers.

forest. and as there were a great many baggage wagons and also some artillery, it was necessary to partially open a road the whole distance. The weather continued wet, and some of the time men and horses had to travel middle deep in mud and water. Frequently the van of the army had to halt and wait for the rear guard, which was often detained in relieving wagons and horses from the mire. The army arrived at the rapids June 30, 1812, whence it proceeded to Detroit, and there on the 16th of August the campaign came to a disastrous termination through Gen. Hull's disgraceful and cowardly surrender to the enemy without firing a shot.

The quotation in the foregoing paragraph from the "American State Papers" might lead the reader to infer that Fort Necessity was located on the Blanchard River, but such is not the fact. Hull's Trace entered the southern boundary of Hancock County about half a mile west of the Perrysburg & Bellefontaine State road, and Fort Necessity was constructed on the west side of the East Branch of Eagle Creek, in the southwest corner of what is now Madison Township. Several acres of forest were chopped down and a temporary fort erected, where the army encamped through *necessity* (hence the name) until Col. Findlay had the road opened to the Blanchard. Fort Necessity was never garrisoned, and Squire Carlin, Job Chamberlin, M. S. Hamlin, William Tanner, and many other pioneers, have told the writer that they never knew that a block-house was built at that point, as it was known throughout pioneer days as "Mud Fort." The "American State Papers," however, mention the erection of a block-house, and, as it was not garrisoned, it may have been burned down by the Indians before the close of the war of 1812. From Fort Necessity the trace ran down the west bank of the East Branch of Eagle Creek to near its junction with the West Branch, crossing the latter and thence continuing down the west side of Eagle Creek to Fort Findlay. Here it crossed the river, and thence ran northward, a short distance east of the State road, till reaching the high lands south of the Middle Branch of Portage River; thence followed the meanders of that stream northwestward, into what is now Wood County; and thence to the Maumee Rapids.

Gen. Hull left a small garrison under Capt. Arthur Thomas, to complete and guard Fort Findlay. When finished, the fort consisted of a stockade about ten feet in height, with a two-story block-house, built of round logs, at each corner. The enclosure was fifty yards square, the entrance or gate being on the east side. A ditch surrounded the stockade, the earth from the excavation having been thrown up against the pickets to give them added strength. The outer walls of the block-houses projected a short distance beyond the stockade, and the upper story of each extended a few feet over the lower one, thus commanding the approaches from every direction. Each block-house was thoroughly loop-holed, and furnished with one small piece of artillery. Within the enclosure a number of cabins for the use of the soldiers were built along the stockade, the open space in the center being utilized by the garrison as a parade ground. To guard against surprise the forest was cleared off for a considerable distance on the south, east and west of the fort, while the river on the north afforded a clear view in that direction. Though no attack was ever made on Fort Findlay, it was nevertheless well calculated to successfully resist any ordinary force which the Indians could bring against it. The fort stood on the south bank of the Blanchard River, in Findlay, the southeast block-house being located on the

site of Judge D. J. Cory's residence, on the northwest corner of Main and Front Streets. It was one of the many wooden fortifications, which were peculiarly adapted to Indian warfare, erected as depots for military stores, and to guard the rear communications of the army.

In July, 1812, Gen. Edward W. Tupper, of Gallia County, raised a force of 1,000 men for six months' service, principally from Gallia, Lawrence and Jackson Counties, who, under the orders of Gen. Winchester, rendezvoused at Urbana. From that village Gen. Tupper followed Hull's Trace to Fort McArthur, where he established his base of supplies, and then marched northward to Fort Findlay. After a much needed rest his command pushed on to the foot of the Maumee Rapids. The Indians appearing in force on the opposite bank of the Maumee, Tupper attempted to cross the river and attack the enemy, but the rapidity of the current, and the feeble, half starved condition of his men and horses, rendered the attempt a failure. The enemy soon after took the offensive, and, crossing the Maumee, attacked the American camp, but were defeated and driven back with considerable loss. This defeat caused them to retreat hastily to Detroit, and Tupper subsequently marched back to Fort Findlay, and thence to Fort McArthur, where his supplies were stored.

The following anecdote, related in Howe's "Historical Collections," page 238, is so closely associated with Fort Findlay as to be worthy of a place in this chapter: "About 9 o'clock one dark and windy night in the late war, Capt. William Oliver, in company with a Kentuckian, left Fort Meigs for Fort Findlay on an errand of importance, the distance being about 33 miles. They had scarcely started on their dreary and perilous journey, when they unexpectedly came upon an Indian camp, around the fires of which the Indians were busy cooking their suppers. Disturbed by the noise of their approach, the savages sprang up and ran toward them. At this they reined their horses into the branches of a fallen tree. Fortunately the horses, as if conscious of the danger, stood perfectly still, and the Indians passed around the tree without making any discovery in the thick darkness. At this juncture Oliver and his companion put spurs to their horses and dashed forward into the woods, through which they passed all the way to their point of destination. They arrived safely, but with their clothes completely torn off by the brambles and bushes, and their bodies bruised all over by coming in contact with the trees. They had scarcely arrived at the fort when the Indians in pursuit made their appearance, but too late, for their prey had escaped."

Fort Findlay was garrisoned until the spring of 1815, and a man named Thorp kept a small sutler store immediately east of the fort during the period of its occupation. Soon after the war closed the fort was abandoned, and its garrison returned to peaceful avocations. The Indians though subdued, still entertained very bitter feelings toward their conquerors, as the treacherous murder of Capt. Thomas and son will serve to illustrate. "Capt. Arthur Thomas," says Howe, "lived on King's Creek, three miles from Urbana. He was ordered, in the war of 1812, with his company to guard the public stores at Fort Findlay. On his return himself and son lost their horses, and separated from the rest of the company to hunt for them. They encamped at the Big Spring, near Solomon's Town, about five miles north of Bellefontaine, and the next morning were found killed and scalped. Their bodies were brought into Urbana by a deputation of citizens."

There has been considerable difference of opinion among the pioneers of Hancock County as to the number of block-houses Fort Findlay originally contained, but it is apparent that it had one at each corner, though a couple of them had probably been torn down by the Indians before the erection of the county in 1820. "When my father, Benjamin J. Cox," says Mrs. Elizabeth Eberly, of Portage, Wood County, "located at Fort Findlay in 1815, there were three block-houses yet standing in a fair state of preservation, and another partly torn down. Many of the pickets enclosing the fort had been cut down by the Indians for fire wood. Very little remained of the block-house at the northwest corner of the enclosure, but the other three were occupied by some Wyandot Indian families, a settlement of whom we found around the fort." From several interviews held with the venerable Squire Carlin, of Findlay, the writer is of the opinion that some of the material in these historic buildings was utilized by Wilson Vance and others of the very earliest settlers for fire wood and to erect out-buildings, and later comers found but one block-house intact, which was used by Mr. Vance for a stable. This fact led many to believe that the fort originally contained but one block-house, which remained standing on the site of Judge Cory's residence for several years after the organization of Hancock County in 1828. This too was finally torn down and removed, and with the passing years all traces of Fort Findlay were gradually obliterated.

Mexican War.—The disputed territory lying between the Nueces and Rio Grande Rivers was the direct cause of the Mexican war. Texas, which had first won its independence and was afterward admitted into the Union, claimed the Rio Grande as the boundary line, while the Mexican authorities disputed this claim, asserting it was Nueces River. The United States Government proposed to settle the controversy by peaceful negotiation, but Mexico scornfully refused and made threats of occupying the territory in dispute. The Americans in the meantime had been preparing for war, which from the actions of the Mexican authorities seemed inevitable. In March, 1846, Gen. Taylor was ordered to advance to the Rio Grande with a few thousand men, which he had organized at Corpus Christi, near the mouth of the river Neuces. He erected Fort Brown opposite Matamoras, which was accepted by Mexico as a declaration of war, and on the 26th of April, 1846, Gen. Arista, the Mexican commander on the Rio Grande, notified Gen. Taylor that hostilities had begun. On the same day a small force of American cavalry was attacked by the Mexicans on the east side of the Rio Grande, and here occurred the first bloodshed of the war. Hancock County was then very sparsely settled, and when the call for troops reached this portion of Ohio the quota of the State was full. A company, however, was recruited from Hancock and Putnam Counties and offered to the Governor, who replied that their services were not needed. As far as known only four citizens went from this county into the Mexican war, viz.: Dr. William D. Carlin and Allen Royce, of Findlay, and Jeremiah Yates and Loami Farmer, of Eagle Township. But the progress of the victorious army from the Rio Grande to the City of Mexico was hailed with a patriotic enthusiasm all over the country. Some of the Whig leaders, however, affected to see in the war a scheme for the extension of slavery, and on this ground made many bitter speeches against it, but the patriotism of the nation was aroused and the Government was nobly sustained by the people in its triumphant appeal to arms.



Lewis Glessner



The Great Rebellion.—Since the days of the Revolution, the people of this country were never so thoroughly aroused, as when the news flashed over the wires that Fort Sumter had fallen. From all sections of the Free States, there went up many voices, expressive of a fierce determination to sustain the Government and punish traitors. History furnishes few examples of such patriotic devotion, and such unanimity of sentiment and feeling. Volunteer companies sprang into existence as if by magic; and large amounts were contributed by State Legislatures, private corporations and individuals to defray the expenses of the coming struggle for national unity. Hancock County was fully in harmony with the patriotic sentiments of the nation, and enthusiastic expressions of loyalty to our time-honored flag fell from the lips of old and young alike. Findlay being the county seat, was the principal point where public sentiment found outward expression, and the action taken in that town will serve to illustrate the patriotism of the people throughout the county.

Early on the morning of April 17, 1861, a few national flags were thrown to the breeze, the sight of which seemed to kindle a patriotic fire in every heart, and others followed in quick succession. Presently a large American banner was suspended across Main Street from the Court House to Reed's Hotel. The town soon began to present a lively appearance, and when a band headed by the stars and stripes commenced promenading Main Street, the martial spirit in many loyal hearts broke forth in cheers. About 10 o'clock A. M., a cannon, owned by the local Democratic organization, was brought out, and, accompanied by several hundred citizens on foot and horseback, taken across the river and a salute of thirty-four guns fired in honor of the Union. The enthusiasm was unbounded, and party lines seemed to be entirely forgotten. Toward noon another large banner was suspended across Main Street, and flags of every size were floating from nearly every business house and many of the private residences. Two "liberty-poles" were raised in the afternoon on the opposite corners of Main and Main Cross Streets, and the stars and stripes run up on each. A few days afterward four more flag-staffs were put up at different points on Main Street, ranging from fifty to eighty feet in height. The abundance of national bunting to be seen on every hand at this time gave to Findlay an appearance of a great military encampment.

Pursuant to a call issued Wednesday, April 17, 1861, a large and enthusiastic assemblage of citizens convened at the Court House on the following afternoon. Edson Goit was called to the chair, and Philip Ford and S. J. Mills appointed secretaries. Mr. Goit, on taking the chair, delivered a patriotic speech, which was frequently interrupted by outbursts of applause. He said the Government should be sustained at all hazards, and the man who, in this emergency, opposed the execution of the laws denounced as a traitor. On motion of J. M. Palmer a committee, consisting of Messrs. Aaron Blackford, J. M. Palmer, A. P. Byal, W. W. Siddall and Israel Green, was appointed to draft resolutions expressing the sentiments of the meeting. During the absence of the committee the enthusiasm was kept at fever heat by patriotic, soul-stirring music and speeches. The band played "Hail Columbia," and "The Star Spangled Banner" was called for and sung by Messrs. N. Y. Mefford, Dwella M. Stoughton and William Mungen, the large audience rising and joining in the chorus. At the close of each verse cheer after cheer was given by the assembled hundreds, till the very

building seemed to join in the enthusiastic patriotism of the people and echo back their sentiments. James A. Bope made a brief speech denouncing treason and secession, and calling upon all to rally around the flag. Amidst frequent applause William Mungen declared himself "in favor of our country, right or wrong." The time, he said, was now past for party questions, and as a Democrat of the strictest school he asserted that in the present alarming condition of the country political questions should be forgotten. William Gribben was the next speaker. He said that armed traitors had conspired together for the destruction of our Government; that our national flag had been insulted and trampled upon by the enemies of our country; and declared the honor of the glorious old banner should be upheld. By this time the committee had returned, and the following preamble and resolutions were reported and adopted:

WHEREAS, A band of armed traitors to the Government of the United States have leagued together for the avowed purpose of overturning the Constitution and laws of our beloved country, and to insult and strike down the ensign of our nation, which has given to the American citizen ample protection at home and abroad, and to our country consideration and dignity wherever its stars and stripes have been seen and known; and whereas, in pursuance of such treasonable intent, those traitors have once struck down that glorious flag, and now threaten with a myrmidon host in arms to seize our national capital, to trail our nation's honor in the dust and transform this free government into a cruel monarchy; Therefore,

Resolved, That whatever differences of opinion have divided us in the past, to-day we are united, and are animated by one purpose, and that is an unyielding and undying devotion to the Union and determination to stand by the Government and flag of our country. Living, we will stand shoulder to shoulder and fight in their defense; dying, we bequeath this purpose to our children.

Resolved, That in the present civil war, so wantonly begun by traitors now in arms against our Government, the only issue presented to every American citizen is: Shall our constitional government stand against the rebel and revolutionary force that now threatens its destruction? Or shall it yield to treason for a despotism to be erected upon its ruins? "*He that is not with us is against us.*"

Resolved, That as our Revolutionary fathers, with a firm reliance on the protection of Divine Providence, mutually pledged to each other their lives, their fortunes, and their sacred honor for the purchase of those civil and religious liberties by them transmitted to us, and that we have so long enjoyed; we, their descendants, with a firm reliance upon the same Divine and all-protecting Power, mutually make the same sacred pledge to each other for the preservation and perpetuity of that inestimable inheritance by them bequeathed to us.

Upon the adoption of the foregoing resolutions, Judge Palmer addressed the meeting in an eloquent speech full of patriotic devotion. James M. Neibling was then called for, and began by saying that fourteen years before, when only a boy, he shouldered his musket at the call of his country to assist in chastising Mexican arrogance, and he was ready to go again if his country's cause demanded his services. This declaration was received with unbounded applause. After some further remarks on the necessity of united and immediate action, he presented the roll of enlistment for volunteers, under the call of President Lincoln for 75,000 men, issued three days before. In a brief time seventy-two names were down upon the roll, and the meeting then adjourned with cheers and expressions of loyalty to the flag. The volunteers were formed into line by Colonel Neibling, and, escorted by the band, marched down Main Street and disbanded, to meet for another rally on Tuesday, April 23, which had been announced before the adjournment of the meeting.

The news went abroad for a grand rally at Findlay on that day, and never before were so many people seen in the town. They came from every

part of the county, all seeming to be moved by the one pervading sentiment of loyalty. Nothing was talked of but the defense and preservation of the Government, and in this great cause none were more deeply enlisted than the old gray-headed veterans who had so long enjoyed its blessings. Scores of pioneers publicly declared their readiness to shoulder a musket and march to the defense of their country. All seemed to be imbued with that same spirit of patriotic devotion and sacrifice which nerved the Revolutionary fathers to win that glorious boon of liberty we now enjoy. Party prejudice was set aside, and all labored together, hand in hand, in that noble work of preserving the national honor.

By this time three companies of volunteers had been raised in Hancock County, which were afterward mustered into the Twenty-first Regiment Ohio Volunteer Infantry as Companies A, F and G. The officers of Company A were James Wilson, captain; Dwella M. Stoughton, first lieutenant; George Foreman, second lieutenant. Company F was officered by George F. Walker, captain; Morgan D. Shafer, first lieutenant; Joseph E. Stearns, second lieutenant. Company F was commanded by R. Henry Lovell, captain; Joshua S. Preble, first lieutenant: J. J. A. Thrapp, second lieutenant. In the afternoon companies A and F were each presented by the ladies of Findlay with a handsome flag. The presentation took place in front of the Court House, in the presence of the large assemblage which had come together on that day to attest their unswerving loyalty. Mrs. James M. Neibling made the presentation speech, and the flags were respectively received by Captains Wilson and Walker on behalf of their companies.

The volunteers rendezvoused at the fair ground, then located in East Findlay on the Mt. Blanchard road, which was dedicated as "Camp Neibling" in honor of the gallant Col. James M. Neibling, who was ever foremost in promoting the good cause, and who afterward commanded the Twenty-first Regiment on many a bloody field. On the 25th of April Mrs. Mary Mungen, on behalf of the ladies of Findlay, presented a flag to Company G; but on the following day a delegation of ladies from McComb put in an appearance at Camp Neibling and presented another flag to the same company, most of which command were from the northwest part of the county. Miss Addie M. Price presented the beautiful banner, and Capt. Lovell received it and responded in appropriate terms.

On Saturday, April 27, a mass meeting was held at the Court House for the purpose of arranging for a more thorough military organization of the county. James M. Neibling was elected chairman, and Daniel B. Beardsley, secretary. Speeches were made by Messrs. James M. Neibling, Aaron Blackford and Abel F. Parker, advocating the proposed measure; and committees were appointed in each township to carry the project into effect. Meetings were soon afterward held in nearly every township, military companies organized, and the patriotic ardor of the people was unabated. Several companies of home guards were also formed, consisting of men over forty-five years of age; but these organizations subsequently disbanded, because the term "Home Guard" soon became one of reproach, and was flippantly used to designate stay-at-homes, or a class who were afraid to go into the army.

Up to this period, $3,965 had been raised by private subscription as a "Volunteer Aid Fund" for the families of volunteers, and the good work was still going on. April 29, a "Volunteer Relief Committee" was organized to distribute said fund, consisting of Messrs. William H. Wheeler, Israel

Green, William C. Cox, B. B. Barney and Ezra Brown. This organization did efficient work during the first stages of the war, or until the "Military Committee" and "Soldiers' Aid Society" took its place.

The three companies at Camp Neibling were finally notified to prepare for active duty, and Monday, May 6, Company A was ordered to Carey. It was escorted to the depot by Companies F and G, headed by the two fire companies in uniform and the Citizens' Band. A large crowd was at the depot to witness their departure, and the scenes enacted, are still vividly remembered. As the train moved slowly away, cheer after cheer was given by the assemblage for the departing volunteers. Five days afterward Companies F and G left Findlay for Cleveland *via* the Fremont & Indiana Railroad. They were escorted to the depot by the Citizens' Band, and accompanied by nearly 2,000 people, who turned out *en masse* to bid them God speed. Company A left Carey for Cleveland on the same day. The three companies arrived at Camp Taylor the day of their departure, and were soon after mustered into the Twenty-first Regiment, which had been organized at Camp Taylor April 27, and James M. Neibling, of Findlay, was elected lieutenant colonel. On the 22d of May, Companies A and F left Camp Taylor for Jackson County, Ohio, whither the balance of the regiment followed on the 24th, and subsequently went into camp near Gallipolis. The regiment did some service in Western Virginia, part of it being engaged in the battle of Scarey Creek, but its experience in the field was limited, and only preparatory for what was coming. Cyrus Hemry, of Pleasant Township, who was drowned in the Ohio River, and Eli S. Reed, of Findlay, commissary of the regiment, who died at Cincinnati, were the only deaths which occurred in the companies from Hancock County during their three months' service. The regiment remained in the field till its term of service expired, and was mustered out at Columbus, Ohio, August 12, 1861.

Toward the close of August a military rendezvous, named "Camp Vance," in honor of Wilson Vance, of Findlay, was established for the Twenty-first Regiment up the Blanchard River, on the Baker farm, and the companies recruiting for the three years' service went into camp at that point. Here the regiment was reorganized, and mustered in for three years September 19, 1861. Lieut-Col. Neibling retained the same rank in the new organization; and Robert S. Mungen, of Findlay, became quartermaster. Four companies from Hancock County were mustered into the Twenty-first, viz.: Company A—captain, Dwella M. Stoughton; first lieutenant, John A. Williams; second lieutenant, George Foreman. Company B—captain, George F. Walker; first lieutenant, William Vance; second lieutenant, Joseph E. Stearns. Company F—captain, Henry H. Alban; first lieutenant, John C. Martin; second lieutenant, Alexander A. Monroe. Company G—captain, Isaac Cusac; first lieutenant, James Porter; second lieutenant, Simon B. Webber. The regiment left Findlay for Camp Dennison September 26, where it was supplied with arms, and early in October marched into Kentucky. Its first engagement was at Ivy Mountain, where the Union troops were commanded by Gen. Nelson, soon after which the Federals returned to Louisville. The army was reorganized under Gen. Buell, and the Twenty-first participated in the capture of Bowling Green, Ky., and Nashville, Murfreesboro and Huntsville, Tenn. During the rebels' siege of Nashville, in the fall of 1862, the regiment did such gallant service that Gen. Rosecrans issued a special order compliment-

ing it for its efficiency on the grand guard around that city. From this time forward the Twenty-first followed the fortunes of Rosecrans' army around Murfreesboro and Chattanooga. It fought with great desperation and valor in the bloody battles of Stone River and Chickamauga, Lieut.-Col. Stoughton being so severely wounded in the latter fight that he died at Findlay, November 20, 1863, just two months after that battle took place. The regiment retired with the army to Chattanooga, and subsequently was present at the battle of Mission Ridge. In January, 1864, almost the entire command, then numbering only about 300 men, veteranized, and 160 of the survivors from Hancock County returned to their homes on a thirty days' furlough. After resting and recruiting the Twenty-first again took the field and participated in the celebated Atlanta campaign, and subsequently in Sherman's historic "march to the sea." Early in the Atlanta campaign, at New Hope Church, May 28, Col. Neibling had his right arm so badly shattered that it was afterward amputated, and he was honorably discharged from the service. Upon the capture of Richmond and the surrender of the rebel armies under Lee and Johnston, the Union army returned to Washington, where the Twenty-first was present at the grand review May 26, 1865. It was mustered out of service at Louisville, Ky., July 25, 1865, and thence proceeded to Columbus, Ohio, where, on the 28th of July, it was paid off and discharged. Its unflinching bravery in battle won for the Twenty-first the *sobriquet* of "The Fighting Regiment," and the survivors of this command are proud of its brilliant record.

The following officers from Hancock County served in the Twent-First Regiment, from its reorganization for three years: James M. Neibling, mustered in as lieutenant-colonel September 19, 1861; promoted to colonel December 20, 1862; lost right arm at the battle of New Hope Church, and was honorably discharged December 6, 1864. In June, 1863, Col. Neibling was presented by his regiment with a magnificent sword and spurs, costing nearly $500, as a mark of their esteem and confidence in him as a commander. Robert Mungen, mustered in as quartermaster September 19, 1861, subsequently became brigade quartermaster. Dwella M. Stoughton, mustered in as captain September 19, 1861; promoted to major October 3, 1862, and to lieutenant-colonel December 20, 1862; died at Findlay November 20, 1863, of wounds received in the battle of Chickamauga. George F. Walker, mustered in as captain September 19, 1861; promoted to major December 20, 1862; resigned June 14, 1863. Henry H. Alban, mustered in as captain September 19, 1861; honorably discharged March 8, 1865. Isaac Cusac, mustered in as captain September 19, 1861; promoted to major February 29, 1864; mustered out with the regiment. John A. Williams, mustered in as first lieutenant September 19, 1861; resigned January 8, 1862. William Vance, mustered in as first lieutenant September 19, 1861; resigned December 5, 1862. John C. Martin, mustered in as first lieutenant September 19, 1861; promoted to captain April 9, 1862; commission returned; again promoted to the same rank February 29, 1864, and to major July 12, 1865; mustered out with the regiment. James Porter, mustered in as first lieutenant September 19, 1861, and mustered out September 20, 1864. George Foreman, mustered in as second lieutenant September 19, 1861; promoted to first lieutenant February 3, 1862; honorably discharged September 11, 1862, and reinstated November 18, 1862. Joseph E. Stearns, mustered in as second lieutenant September 19, 1861; promoted

to first lieutenant February 3, 1862; commission revoked, and August 26, 1862, he was appointed by the President assistant adjutant-general, with the rank of captain. Alexander A. Monroe, mustered in as second lieutenant September 19, 1861; promoted to first lieutenant December 5, 1862; resigned May 21, 1863. Simon B. Webber, mustered in as second lieutenant September 19, 1861; resigned with same rank. Daniel Lewis, promoted to second lieutenant February 8, 1862; to first lieutenant November 18, 1862; and to captain February 29, 1864, having also succeeded Robert S. Mungen, as quartermaster; killed July 21, 1864. Robert S. Dillsworth, promoted to second lieutenant March 1, 1862, and to first lieutenant June 13, 1863; killed June 27, 1864. Thomas B. Lamb, promoted to second lieutenant August 26, 1862, and to first lieutenant February 29, 1864; resigned January 8, 1865. Daniel Richards, promoted to second lieutenant November 18, 1862, and to first lieutenant February 29, 1864; discharged January 31, 1865. Jacob L. Keller, promoted to second lieutenant December 5, 1862; to first lieutenant February 29, 1864, and to captain May 11, 1865; mustered out with the regiment. Wilson J. Vance, promoted to second lieutenant May 2, 1863, and to first lieutenant December 30, 1863; resigned April 2, 1864. Wilson W. Brown, promoted to second lieutenant May 13, 1863, and to first lieutenant January 20, 1865; discharged as an enlisted man. John R. Porter, promoted to second lieutenant June 13, 1863, and to first lieutenant January 28, 1865; declined last promotion, and was mustered out March 31, 1865. James Blakely, promoted to second lieutenant September 14, 1863; killed September 20, 1863, at Chickamauga. William Welker, promoted to second lieutenant February 29, 1864; to first lieutenant January 28, 1865, and to captain May 18, 1865; mustered out as second lieutenant May 15, 1865. Christian B. Sholty, promoted to second lieutenant February 29, 1864; to first lieutenant February 10, 1865, and to captain July 12, 1865; mustered out with regiment. David McClintock, promoted to second lieutenant February 29, 1864; to first lieutenant February 10, 1865, and to captain July 12, 1865; mustered out as first lieutenant. John H. Bolton, promoted to first lieutenant May 18, 1865, and to captain July 12, 1865; mustered out with regiment. Robert F. Bonham, Philip Wilch, Quincy A. Randall and Jeremiah E. Millhoof were all promoted to first lieutenants July 12, 1865; mustered out with the regiment. Bonham declined promotion. Squire J. Carlin, promoted to captain July 12, 1865; mustered out with the regiment.

The Thirty-first Ohio Volunteer Infantry comes next in the order of time, being organized at Camp Chase in August, 1861, with Moses B. Walker, of Findlay, as colonel of the regiment. The Thirty-first, however, had only a few men from Hancock County, and its history is not regarded with much interest by the people of this portion of the State. Besides Col. Walker, his nephew, Capt. George F. Walker, of Findlay, formerly of the Twenty-first Regiment, was appointed to a captaincy in the Thirty-first January 11, 1864, and promoted to major June 20, 1865. The regiment made a good record, and its deeds of valor are fully mentioned in Reid's "Ohio in the War." Col. Walker was mustered out with his regiment as brevet brigadier-general of volunteers July 20, 1865, and subsequently retired with the rank of lieutenant-colonel in the regular army.

The Forty-ninth Ohio Volunteer Infantry received one full company from Hancock County, commanded by Albert Langworthy, captain; Samuel

F. Gray, first lieutenant, and James W. Davidson, second lieutenant. The regiment was organized at Camp Noble, near Tiffin, Ohio, in August, 1861, and besides the company raised at Findlay, it received a good many recruits into other companies. Captain Langworthy's command was mustered in as Company A, August 22, 1861, and left with the regiment for Camp Dennison September 10, where the men were equipped. The Forty-ninth reported to Gen. Robert Anderson at Louisville, Ky., September 22, and the same evening took cars for Lebanon Junction to join the forces then under Gen. W. T. Sherman. Its first skirmish with the rebels took place in December, on Green River, where the regiment went into camp and remained till the following February, when it marched to Bowling Green, Ky., and Nashville, Tenn. Here it went into camp till the 16th of March, 1862, when it moved with Buell's army to join Grant at Pittsburg Landing, and participated in the second day's fight. It took part in the seige of Corinth, and was engaged in duty in that vicinity until the movement after Bragg's army, which was then threatening Louisville and Cincinnati, was inaugurated. From Louisville the regiment moved with the army in pursuit of Bragg, and was with the advance that raised the seige of Nashville. The Forty-ninth served under Rosecrans in his movements around Murfreesboro and Chattanooga, and lost many of its brave officers and men in that campaign. At the battle of Chickamauga the regiment was commanded by Maj. Samuel F. Gray, and did gallant service. The army under Rosecrans was then shut up in Chattanooga till the defeat of the rebels at Mission Ridge, where the Forty-ninth was conspicuous for its gallantry. Immediately after this battle the regiment moved with the corps sent to the relief of Knoxville; but ere reaching that point learned that the rebels were repulsed, and after a long, severe march, returned to Chattanooga. Here most of the regiment re-enlisted and returned to Ohio on furlough, the survivors of Company A arriving at Findlay February 11, 1864. On the expiration of their furlough the brave boys of the Forty-ninth again took the field, the regiment strengthened by hundreds of new recruits. The movement against Atlanta soon afterward began, the Forty-ninth taking an active part in that campaign, and suffering severe loss in the bloody battles fought around Atlanta. When Sherman commenced his "march to the sea," the Army of the Cumberland, to which the Forty-ninth belonged, was left to look after Hood, whom it defeated at Franklin and Nashville. Upon the close of this campaign the regiment was sent, *via* New Orleans, to Texas, mustered out at Victoria November 30, 1865, and subsequently discharged at Camp Chase, Ohio.

The following citizens from Hancock County served in the Forty-ninth as commissioned officers: Albert Langworthy, elected captain August 22, 1861; resigned June 22, 1862. Benjamin S. Porter, elected captain August 24, 1861; promoted to major September 30, 1862, and to lieutenant-colonel January 1, 1863; appointed major in invalid corps July 2, 1863. Amos Keller, elected captain August 24, 1861; killed at Stone River January 1, 1863. Samuel F. Gray, elected first lieutenant August 22, 1861; promoted to captain January 9, 1862; to major January 1, 1863, and to lieutenant-colonel October 4, 1863; resigned October 4, 1864. James W. Davidson, elected second lieutenant August 22, 1861; promoted to first lieutenant January 9, 1862; resigned July 27, 1863. Thomas J. Ray, promoted to second lieutenant June 30, 1862; to first lieutenant June 24, 1863, and to captain

August 11, 1864; mustered out with regiment. Charles Wallace, promoted to second lieutenant June 24, 1863, and to first lieutenant May 9, 1864; killed at Kenesaw June 24, 1864. George S. Crawford, promoted to second lieutenant July 27, 1863; to first lieutenant May 9, 1864, and to captain December 21, 1864; mustered out with the regiment at Victoria, Tex.

The Fifty-seventh Ohio Volunteer Infantry, like the Twenty-first, was largely recruited in Hancock County, and also partially organized at Camp Vance, near Findlay. William Mungen, of Findlay, was also the first colonel of the regiment, and largely instrumental in raising it; while Dr. William D. Carlin, of Findlay, was its second surgeon. Recruiting commenced September 16, 1861, and was pushed forward rapidly. Companies F, G and H were raised in Hancock County and also a portion of Company B. The officers of Company F, when mustered into service, were captain, John B. May; first lieutenant, Daniel Gilbert; second lieutenant, Edmund W. Firmin. Those of Company G were captain, James Wilson; first lieutenant, John W. Wheeler; second lieutenant, John Adams. Of Company H were captain, Patrick Kilkenny (of Toledo); first lieutenant, Hiram E. Henderson; second lieutenant, Oliver Mungen. The regiment left Findlay for Camp Chase January 22, 1862, where its organization was completed on the 10th of February. Eight days afterward the regiment left Camp Chase and reported at Paducah, Ky., where it was assigned to the Army of the Tennessee. From Paducah the Fifty-seventh went to Fort Henry, thence to Savannah, Tenn., and soon afterward arrived at Pittsburg Landing. It did duty in that vicinity on several reconnoissances; but its first appearance in battle was at Pittsburg Landing April 6 and 7, 1862, where its valor was fully tested and not found wanting. On the next day the Fifty-seventh was engaged with Forrest's Cavalry at Pea Ridge, and came out victorious. From this time up to January, 1864, the regiment was engaged in the following battles and skirmishes: Russell House, siege of Corinth, Morning Sun, Coldwater, Hernando, Wolf Creek Bridge, Chickasaw Bayou, Arkansas Post, Clay Farm, Rolling Fork, Haines' Bluff, Snyder's Bluff, Champion Hill, Messenger's Ford, Raymond, Black River, Mechanicsburg, Vicksburg, Jackson, Tuscumbia, Mission Ridge and the relief of Knoxville. On the 1st of January, 1864, the Fifty-seventh re-enlisted as veterans, and about a month afterward started for Ohio on furlough, those from Hancock County arriving at home on the 13th of February. After resting, the regiment rendezvoused at Camp Chase, where it received 207 recruits. It arrived at Nashville, March 29, 1864, and the next month rejoined its brigade, at Larkinsville, Ala. The regiment participated in the Atlanta campaign, and was almost constantly engaged with the enemy in the many sanguinary battles fought in that vicinity. The regiment left Atlanta with Sherman's army on its "march to the sea," and shared in the glory of that achievement. After the surrender of Johnston, it marched from Petersburg and Richmond to Washington, and was present at the grand review May 26, 1865. On the 2d of June the Fifty-seventh was ordered to Louisville, Ky., and subsequently proceeded from Louisville to Little Rock, Ark. It was mustered out of service at Little Rock August 14, and on the 25th was paid off and discharged at Tod Barracks, Columbus, Ohio. The names of 1,594 men are on its muster rolls, but of that number only 243 were present to be mustered out at the close of the war. The remnants of its battle-torn flags at Columbus, faded in color, but bright in glorious suggestions of the scenes through which they passed, tell the history of this gallant command.



W. E. Snyder



The officers of the Fifty-seventh Regiment from Hancock County were as follows: William Mungen, appointed lieutenant-colonel September 27, 1861, and colonel December 16, 1861; resigned April 16, 1863. Dr. William D. Carlin, appointed surgeon May 26, 1862; died December 26, 1862. James Wilson, elected captain January 4, 1862; honorably discharged April 12, 1865. John W. Wheeler, elected first lieutenant January 4, 1862; promoted to captain December 31, 1862; honorably discharged March 28, 1864. John Adams, elected second lieutenant January 4, 1862; resigned April 27, 1864. John B. May, elected captain January 10, 1862; resigned January 30, 1863. Daniel Gilbert, elected first lieutenant January 10, 1862; promoted to captain January 30, 1863; honorably discharged November 18, 1863. Edmund W. Firmin, elected second lieutenant January 10, 1862; promoted to first lieutenant January 30, 1863, and to captain August 16, 1864; declined captaincy, and was mustered out at expiration of service. Hiram E. Henderson, commissioned first lieutenant February 17, 1862; promoted to captain April 22, 1862; honorably discharged August 31, 1863. Oliver Mungen, commissioned second lieutenant February 17, 1862; promoted to first lieutenant April 22, 1862; resigned February 9, 1863. Squire Johnson, promoted to second lieutenant August 19, 1862; to first lieutenant May 9, 1864; to captain February 10, 1865, and to major August 16, 1865; mustered out with regiment. John M. Jordan, promoted to second lieutenant November 27, 1862, and to first lieutenant May 9, 1864; mustered out at expiration of service. Jacob R. Tussing, promoted to first lieutenant December 31, 1862, and to captain May 9, 1864; declined captaincy, and was mustered out at expiration of service. W. Cramer Good, promoted to second lieutenant January 30, 1863, and to first lieutenant May 9, 1864; declined latter promotion, and was mustered out at expiration of service. James McCauley, promoted to first lieutenant January 18, 1865, and to captain August 10, 1865; mustered out with regiment. George Trichler, promoted to first lieutenant January 18, 1865, and to captain August 10, 1865; mustered out with regiment. Jasper T. Rickets, promoted to first lieutenant August 10, 1865; mustered out with regiment. Ezra Hipsher and Aaron Glottheart, promoted to second lieutenancies August 10, 1865, and mustered out with the regiment at Little Rock, Ark. All of the foregoing officers are well remembered, and some of them are yet living in the county.

The Sixty-fifth Ohio Volunteer Infantry was one of the regiments included in the brigade raised at Mansfield, Ohio, by the Hon. John Sherman. It was organized at Camp Buckingham, near Mansfield, October 3, 1861, and mustered into service on the 1st of December following: One company was raised in Hancock County for this regiment, of which Joshua S. Preble was captain; Joseph M. Randall, first lieutenant, and John C. Matthias, second lieutenant. It was mustered in as Company K, with the foregoing officers in command. The Sixty-fifth left Mansfield, December 18, 1861, for Louisville, Ky., and was on duty in that State till going to Nashville, Tenn., in March, 1862. From Nashville it marched to Savannah; thence by steamer to Pittsburg Landing, where it arrived on the afternoon of the second day's fight, but did not become actively engaged. It was under fire almost constantly at the siege of Corinth; and upon the evacuation of that city by the rebels, was engaged in guarding the Tennessee River, until it marched northward in pursuit of Bragg and the defense of Louisville. The regiment soon after returned to Nashville, where the army was reorganized

under Gen. Rosecrans. In the advance on Murfreesboro the regiment was hotly engaged at Stone River, losing many of its commissioned officers and men in that engagement. In June, 1863, the Sixty-fifth moved from Murfreesboro to the vicinity of Chattanooga, and the following September participated in the terrible battle of Chickamauga. It was subsequently engaged in the battle of Mission Ridge. During the several battles of the Atlanta campaign the regiment was almost constantly under fire until the evacuation of Atlanta, when it went into camp at that city. From Atlanta it moved in pursuit of Hood, was engaged at Spring Hill, and took part in the bloody battles of Franklin and Nashville, and the subsequent pursuit of the rebel army across the Tennessee. From Nashville the Sixty-fifth went to New Orleans, and thence to San Antonio, Tex., where it performed garrison duty till December 16, 1865, when it was mustered out. It was then ordered to Camp Chase, Ohio, where the men were paid off and discharged on the 2d of January, 1866.

The commissioned officers from this county who served in the Sixty-fifth were as follows: Joshua S. Preble, elected captain November 17, 1861; resigned April 14, 1862. Joseph M. Randall, elected first lieutenant November 17, 1861; promoted to captain October 7, 1862; mustered out January 19, 1865. John C. Matthias, elected second lieutenant November 17, 1861; promoted to first lieutenant May 11, 1862, and to captain February 20, 1863; resigned November 17, 1864. Christian M. Bush, promoted to second-lieutenant March 30, 1863; to first lieutenant June 14, 1864, and to captain December 9, 1864; mustered out with regiment. John Kanel, promoted to first lieutenant November 26, 1864, and mustered out with the regiment at Camp Chase.

A Company of Independent Sharp-shooters was recruited principally from the southern part of Hancock County, in the fall of 1861, and subsequently attached to the Sixty-sixth Illinois Infantry as Company H. It participated in the following engagements and skirmishes prior to the Atlanta campaign: Tuscumbia, Danville, Rienzi, Blackland, Jumpertown, Hatchie River, Boonville and Whiteside's farm. In December, 1863, they re-enlisted as veterans, and early in 1864 came home on furlough. They returned to the field in time for the Atlanta campaign, and took part in the many battles fought around that city. The Sharp-shooters also formed a part of Sherman's army on the "march to the sea," and served in the campaign of the Carolinas. They were mustered out at Louisville, Ky., July 15, 1865, and paid and discharged at Camp Dennison, Ohio. James Waltermire, John Pifer, James Cox and William N. Watson, of Hancock County, served as lieutenants in this command, which did much efficient service from the date of its organization until the close of the rebellion.

The Eighty-seventh Ohio Volunteer Infantry was a three-months organization, recruited in the spring of 1862, with Columbus as its point of rendezvous. Early in June a company of volunteers left Findlay for Camp Chase, and were mustered into the Eighty-seventh as Company D. Samuel Huber and Philip Ford, of Findlay, were respectively captain and first lieutenant, the second lieutenant, with a portion of the company, being from another county. The chaplain of the regiment, Rev. George D. Oviatt, was also from Hancock County. On the 12th of June the regiment was ordered to Baltimore, Md., and went into camp near that city. Toward the close of July it repaired to Harper's Ferry, where it remained till the

expiration of its term of service. In the meantime the rebels captured the national forces at this point, but on learning that the Eighty-seventh was no longer in the service, the men were released from their paroles, and the regiment sent home and mustered out at Camp Chase, September 20, 1862.

The Ninety-ninth Ohio Volunteer Infantry was organized at Camp Lima, Allen County, and mustered into service August 26, 1862. Albert Langworthy, of Findlay, formerly captain in the Forty-ninth Regiment, was commissioned as colonel of the Ninety-ninth. The surgeon, Dr. J. T. Woods, was also from this county. Two companies, D and G, were recruited in Hancock and mustered in with the following officers: Company D, captain, James A. Bope; first lieutenant, James Harsh; second lieutenant, William C. Kelley. Company G, captain, Oliver P. Capelle; first lieutenant, Charles G. Barnd; second lieutenant, Josiah Moorhead. Robert B. Drake, of Allen County, recruited quite a number of men from the southwest part of this county, who were mustered into Company B. These companies began recruiting in July, 1862, and on the 16th of August left Findlay for Camp Lima. The regiment left Lima August 31, under orders for Kentucky, where it did service in the defense of Louisville and subsequent pursuit of Bragg's army. It then moved to Nashville, Tenn., and took position near that city. The battle of Stone River was its first severe engagement, and its next was Chickamauga. It participated in the capture of Lookout Mountain, and on the following day was engaged at Mission Ridge. In May, 1864, the Ninety-ninth started on the Atlanta campaign, in which it was under fire almost daily, and made a record for bravery and endurance highly creditable to its officers and men. On the 1st of October, 1864, the brigade to which the Ninety-ninth belonged started in pursuit of Hood on his Nashville campaign. For a few weeks it was cut off from communication with the main army under Thomas, but December 10 joined the army at Nashville and participated in the defeat and pursuit of Hood. It pursued the retreating enemy as far as Columbia, Tenn., where it was consolidated with the Fiftieth Ohio Regiment, and the Ninety-ninth ceased to be an organization. The regimental colors were forwarded to Gov. Brough, who acknowledged their reception in a highly complimentary letter. The officers and men of the gallant Ninety-ninth felt deeply chagrined over the consolidation and loss of their regimental number, the consolidated commands retaining the name of the Fiftieth Ohio Volunteer Infantry. But there was no redress, and the brave boys of the Ninety-ninth bore the change like soldiers—always obedient to the commands of their superior officers. The war, however, was now drawing to a close, and the regiment took part in no battles after the consolidation. It was mustered out of service at Salisbury, N. C., June 26, 1865, and July 17 arrived at Camp Dennison, Ohio, where it was paid and discharged. At the soldiers' reunions held since the war, the Ninety-ninth has always appeared under its own regimental number, and its veterans do not care to be classed with the Fiftieth.

The following commissioned officers from Hancock County served in these regiments: Albert Langworthy, commissioned colonel August 11, 1862; dismissed from the service by the Governor of Ohio in September on a false charge, and after two years' investigation was acquitted and honorably discharged, September 4, 1864. Dr. J. T. Woods, appointed surgeon August 19, 1862; mustered out with the Fiftieth. Oliver P. Capelle, elected captain July 12, 1862; died January 8, 1863, from wounds received

at Stone River. James A. Bope, elected captain July 23, 1862; promoted to lieutenant-colonel of the Fiftieth April 10, 1865, and mustered out with that regiment. Charles G. Barnd, elected first lieutenant July 10, 1862; promoted to captain December 25, 1862; resigned September 27, 1864. James Harsh, elected first lieutenant July 23, 1862; resigned November 16, 1862. William C. Kelley, elected second lieutenant July 23, 1862; resigned November 26, 1862. Josiah Moorhead, elected second lieutenant August 7, 1862; promoted to first lieutenant January 8, 1863; mustered out with the Fiftieth Regiment. William B. Richards, promoted to second lieutenant November 16, 1862; to first lieutenant on the same date, and to captain November 3, 1864; transferred to the Fiftieth Regiment as first lieutenant and again promoted to captain April 10, 1865; mustered out with that regiment. William Zay, promoted to second lieutenant November 16, 1862, and to first lieutenant November 3, 1864; mustered out with the Fiftieth Regiment. Daniel J. McConnell, promoted to second lieutenant January 5, 1863, and to first lieutenant November 3, 1864; mustered out December 31, 1864. David S. Blakeman, promoted to second lieutenant in the Fiftieth April 10, 1865; mustered out with that regiment June 26, 1865.

The One Hundred and Eighteenth Ohio Volunteer Infantry was organized at Camp Lima, Allen County, in August and September, 1862. Here it was joined September 1 by a company from Hancock County, under the command of Capt. Samuel Howard; first lieutenant, Darius Pendleton; second lieutenant, Milton B. Patterson; was mustered into the regiment as Company G. Quite a number of men were also recruited in this county by Martin L. Higgins, who were mustered into Company K, with Higgins as first lieutenant. The regiment left Camp Lima in September, 1862, for Cincinnati, then threatened by Kirby Smith, where it was mustered into the service. It soon afterward moved into central Kentucky, and performed much important patrol duty in that State up to the 20th of August, 1863, when it set out on the march for east Tennessee, reaching Kingston November 10. After the victories of Mission Ridge and Knoxville, the regiment moved to Nashville. On the 29th of December it participated in a brief but stubborn engagement at Mossy Creek, where the regiment exhibited great gallantry, losing forty killed and wounded in two hours. From this to the beginning of the Atlanta campaign nothing of special interest occurred in the fortunes of the One Hundred and Eighteenth. Early in May, 1864, the movement on Atlanta commenced, and this regiment participated in the many victories and final triumphs of that brilliant campaign. Upon the fall of Atlanta the regiment joined in the pursuit of Hood toward Nashville, took a prominent part in the desperate battle of Franklin and was also engaged at Nashville, and in the subsequent pursuit of the defeated rebel army as far as Columbia, whence it went to Clifton. Here it received orders to proceed to North Carolina, and January 16, 1865, the brigade embarked on a steamer for Cincinnati, and there took cars for Washington, D. C. From Alexandria it took steamer to Smithville, landed and moved immediately on Fort Anderson, which was captured, the One Hundred and Eighteenth being the first regiment to plant its colors on the walls. It was next engaged at Town Creek, entered Wilmington February 22, thence proceeded to Kingston and Goldsboro, where, on the 23d of March, the brigade joined Sherman's army. The regiment participated in the final movements against Johnston, and was mustered out at Salisbury,

N. C., June 24, 1865. It arrived at Cleveland, Ohio, July 2, and seven days after the command received its final discharge and returned to their homes.

The following citizens of Hancock County served as commissioned officers in the One Hundred and Eighteenth Regiment: Samuel Howard, elected captain, August 16, 1862; resigned April 1, 1864. Darius Pendleton, elected first lieutenant, August 16, 1862; resigned April 19, 1863. Milton B. Patterson, elected second lieutenant, August 16, 1862, promoted to first lieutenant, April 17, 1863; honorably discharged, May 24, 1865. Martin L. Higgins, elected first lieutenant, July 23, 1862; resigned, March 24, 1863; John Eckels, promoted to second lieutenant, April 17, 1863; died, July 1, 1864. Joel Eckels, promoted to second lieutenant, February 1, 1864, and to first lieutenant, October 12, 1864; mustered out with the regiment.

In September, 1862, the threatened invasion of Cincinnati by the rebels under Gen. Kirby Smith, brought out a call from the Governor of Ohio for the citizens of the State to come to the rescue. About 250 men from Hancock County responded to the call. As these volunteers were equipped with all sorts of fire-arms, they became officially known as the "Squirrel Hunters." The timely arrival of these patriots from every portion of the State, doubtless averted the invasion and saved Cincinnati, and ere the thirty days for which they were called out had expired most of them had returned to their homes. Theirs, it is true, was a bloodless victory, but the "Squirrel Hunters" of Ohio nevertheless deserve credit for their prompt and patriotic response when danger threatened their State.

The First Ohio Volunteer Heavy Artillery had one company (L) from this county, commanded by Capt. Joshua S. Preble; first lieutenant, Ebenezer Wilson, and second lieutenant, John Foreman. The One Hundred and Seventeenth Ohio Volunteer Infantry formed the nucleus of this regiment, being changed from infantry to artillery by an order issued from the war department May 2, 1863. During its recruitment it was engaged in constructing fortifications around Covington and Newport, Ky., for the protection of Cincinnati. The reorganization was completed August 12, 1863, and the regiment remained in Kentucky till early in 1864, when it was ordered to Knoxville, Tenn. Throughout the year 1864 and the winter of 1864–65, the regiment was almost constantly engaged on expeditions against the rebel cavalry infesting east Tennessee and North Carolina. In the spring of 1865, the brigade to which this regiment then belonged moved toward Virginia and North Carolina, and continued to guard the mountain passes until the surrender of Lee and Johnston. It soon afterward returned to Greenville, Tenn., where the regiment camped till July 15, when it started homeward, and on the 25th of July was mustered out at Knoxville, Tenn. It was paid and discharged at Camp Dennison, Ohio, August 1, 1865. All of the officers from this county served until the close of the war.

The Twelfth Ohio Volunteer Cavalry was recruited during September and October, 1863, and mustered into the service at Camp Taylor, near Cleveland, November 24, following. Most of Company G was raised in Hancock County, by Alexander A. Monroe and Eli N. Flaisig, who became respectively captain and second lieutenant of that company. In November one-half the regiment was sent to Johnson's Island, where it was engaged in doing guard duty during the winter of 1863–64. In the spring of the latter year the regiment moved from Camp Dennison, where it was mounted, armed and

equipped, to Louisville, Ky.; thence to Lexington and Mt. Sterling. In May, 1864, it formed a portion of the command that started on the first Saltville, Tenn., raid, but eight days afterward the Twelfth returned in pursuit of Morgan, who was making a raid into Kentucky. The rebels under Morgan were encountered at Mt. Sterling and Cynthiana, and scattered in every direction, the regiment pursuing the fleeing enemy for three days. It soon afterward came up with another guerrilla band at Lebanon, and completely routed it. In September the Twelfth started on a second raid to Saltville, where the regiment was engaged in some hard fighting. On the third raid to Saltville the rebels, after forty hours' fighting, were defeated at every point, and the salt works and immense quantities of stores, etc., subsequently captured and destroyed. In the spring of 1865 the regiment formed a part of Gen. Stoneman's raiding expedition into North Carolina, thence through South Carolina, Georgia and Alabama, aiding in the capture of Jefferson Davis, and capturing the rebel generals, Bragg and Wheeler, with their escorts. The regiment was then sent into Tennessee, the several companies being scattered over that State enforcing law and order, and finally rendezvousing at Nashville, where it was mustered out November 14, 1865. Proceeding to Camp Chase, Ohio, it was there paid and discharged, after two years of incessant service. Capt. Monroe was promoted from this regiment as major of the One Hundred and Twenty-second Colored Infantry, and Lieut. Flaisig was discharged February 26, 1864. These were the only commissioned officers from Hancock County who went out in the Twelfth Ohio Cavalry.

The Ohio National Guards were called out for 100 days' service April 24, 1864. There were four companies forming the Fifty-eighth Battalion in Hancock County, viz.: A, B, C and D, all of which reported at Camp Chase May 5, 1864. The following day they were mustered into three different regiments. Company A was taken into the One Hundred and Sixty-first Regiment, George Foreman, captain; Henry B. Green, second lieutenant. Companies B and D were consolidated with the One Hundred and Thirty-third Regiment, James Waltermire, John Romick and Robert S. Boyles being mustered in as first lieutenants, and Jefferson H. Darrah and William H. Zarbaugh, second lieutenants. Company C was consolidated with the One Hundred and Thirty-fourth regiment, and its men distributed among several companies of that command, its captain, Samuel Biggs, subsequently becoming first lieutenant through the resignation of another officer. The remaining officers of the Fifty-eighth Battalion, who were thus knocked out of their positions, either returned home or went into the ranks, except Rev. Jacob B. Dunn, who was appointed chaplain of the regiment. Considerable feeling was manifested at the time, and much dissatisfaction afterward existed among the companies from this county because of their separation; but they were forced to submit to the orders of the higher authorities, and soon became reconciled to their position.

The One Hundred and Thirty-third Regiment (O. N. G.) was mustered in at Camp Chase, May 6, 1864, and immediately ordered into West Virginia, where it remained on duty till June 7, when it proceeded to Washington, D. C., and thence to Bermuda Hundred. On the 17th of July the regiment embarked for Fort Powhattan, on the James River. Here it was employed in various important duties until August 10, when it returned to Washington, and thence to Camp Chase, where it was mustered out of service August 20, 1864.

The One Hundred and Thirty-fourth Regiment (O. N. G.) was mustered into the service at Camp Chase, May 6, 1864, and the next day moved for Cumberland, Va. On the 6th of June it started to Washington, D. C., and thence proceeded to White House, on the Pamunkey River, but on its arrival was at once ordered to City Point. The regiment had its first and only engagement with the rebels at Port Walthall during the assault on Petersburg, where the men displayed admirable coolness under fire. For seventy days the regiment formed a portion of the advanced lines operating on Richmond, and was engaged in intrenching and picket duty. Its term of service having expired, it returned to Camp Chase, where it was mustered out August 31, 1864.

The One Hundred and Sixty-first Regiment (O. N. G.) was mustered into the service at Camp Chase, May 9, 1864, and left on the same day for Cumberland, Md. It soon afterward moved to Martinsburg, W. Va., and early in June a part of the regiment was sent up to the Shenandoah Valley with the supply train to Hunter's army. After turning over the supplies the detachment returned to Martinsburg, bringing back safely a long wagon train, many sick and wounded from the army, and several hundred prisoners and contrabands, the entire distance marched being nearly 500 miles. From Martinsburg the regiment fell back to Maryland Heights, where skirmishing with the enemy commenced and continued two days. It assisted in defending the Heights until the rebels were driven from the Shenandoah Valley. On the 25th of August, 1864, the regiment was ordered to Ohio, and mustered out at Camp Chase on the 2d of September following.

The One Hundred and Ninety-Second Ohio Volunteer Infantry was organized at Camp Chase, March 10, 1865. Moses Louthan and Jefferson H. Darrah, of Hancock County, having each recruited in this county nearly a company of men for the One Hundred and Ninety-second, were respectively elected captain of Company H and I. On the 12th of March, 1865, the regiment left for the front and were first stationed near Harper's Ferry, Va. The regiment was engaged in picket duty near Harper's Ferry and on the Shenandoah River, subsequently moving to the vicinity of Winchester, Va. Upon the surrender of Lee the regiment moved to Stevenson Station; thence to Jordan Springs, and afterward encamped at Reed's Hill, above Winchester, until ordered to be mustered out, which occurred at Winchester, September 1, 1865. It arrived at Columbus, Ohio, two days afterward, and on the 6th of September was paid and discharged at Camp Chase. Though the end of the war, coming soon after this regiment took the field, cut it off from much active service, it nevertheless stood high for drill, discipline and efficiency, and many of its men were scarred veterans who had faced the enemy on many a well contested battle-field.

The foregoing commands are those wherein the soldiers from Hancock County mainly served; but several additional regiments from Ohio and other States contained some Hancock County boys. In fact she was represented in every arm of the service, and her gallant sons did honor to their country on many a bloody field. Among others from Hancock, who served as commissioned officers in commands not previously mentioned, were the following: Dr. Samuel S. Mills, surgeon of the Fourth Michigan Artillery; Lieut. John T. Carlin served in the Eighty-second Regiment, and also on Gen. Sigel's staff; Abraham F. McCurdy and Nat W. Filkin, each served

as captain and major of the Tenth Ohio Volunteer Cavalry, which also contained a few men from this county. But it is not the intention here to follow the fortunes of these outside commands, as the history of Hancock County in the war is set forth in the sketches of those regiments wherein the great majority of her soldiers fought—hundreds of them laying down their lives that a free and united nation might live.

Up to September 1, 1862, the number of volunteers from this county by townships, as returned by the assessors, was as follows: Allen, 65; Amanda, 16; Big Lick, 47; Blanchard, 100; Cass, 46; Delaware, 74; Eagle, 50; Findlay, 247; Jackson, 51; Liberty, 63; Madison, 59; Marion, 44; Orange, 61; Pleasant 70; Portage, 42; Union, 93; Van Buren, 31; Washington, 101; total, 1,260. Under all of the subsequent calls each township had to furnish a certain designated number of men, and the county always filled her quota, though the draft had finally to be resorted to during the later stages of the war, as men were then so scarce that even large bounties failed to fill up the quotas of the several townships. Including every branch of the service, Hancock County furnished to the Union cause nearly 3,000 as brave men as ever carried a musket, and about two-thirds of that number served throughout the greater portion of the war. Her soldiers displayed a spirit of valor unsurpassed in history, while their courage, fortitude and self-sacrifice were worthy of the glorious cause for which they fought.

From 1861 to 1865 the local work at home of encouraging enlistments and assisting the families of soldiers went steadily on. In June, 1862, the county commissioners passed an act allowing each dependent wife or parent of volunteers $8 per month, and each child under fifteen years of age $2 per month. The following September the monthly allowance of wife or parent was fixed at $4. Relief was afforded only to the families of non-commissioned officers and privates, and then only in cases of actual necessity. In February, 1862, the General Assembly passed an act for the relief of families of volunteers, by which a tax was levied on all taxable property, and a larger, more thorough and systematic relief was afforded. Under this act $38,070 were expended by the county among the families of soldiers during the years 1862, 1863, 1864 and 1865; and from that time until February, 1868, when the last order was redeemed, $8,503 additional were paid out.

In October, 1861, a "Military Committee" was appointed in this county, consisting of Edson Goit, James A. Bope, J. S. Patterson. J. B. Rothchild and J. F. Perkey. A thorough military organization of the county was effected, and sub-committees appointed in each township to aid and encourage volunteering, and solicit contributions of underclothing, etc., for the "boys" in the field. The military committee appointed in this county in 1862, was Edson Goit, James A. Bope, W. G. Baker and Joel Markle; and in 1864 it was Henry Brown, Edson Goit, J. B. Rothchild, J. S. Patterson and J. F. Perkey. In every county of the State these committees did a noble work, and for their untiring efforts to sustain the Government and comfort its brave soldiers during the darkest period of the war deserve the highest praise. The soldiers' aid societies were among the most popular and efficient local institutions of the county, and the ladies of these societies did a great deal of good in gathering and forwarding sanitary supplies to hospital and camp. In fact the patriotic women of the county did their full share toward crushing the mightiest rebellion in the history of the world.



Eli. P. Phillips



When the news that Richmond was captured spread over the county, it created the most intense excitement, but it was one of joy. Bell-ringing, hand-shaking and congratulations were the order of the day. The citizens turned out *en masse;* bonfires were lighted in every town and village, and an undercurrent of deep thankfulness pervaded the entire community. All hailed the good news as a harbinger of peace, and happiness filled every loyal heart. With the fall of the rebel capital the war was comparatively at an end; and, though Lee struggled bravely to save his army from the iron grasp of Grant, its fate was sealed. On the 9th of April, 1865, he surrendered to Grant at Appomattox Court House, and nine days afterward Johnston gave up his army to Sherman. Throughout the North the news of these glorious successes of the Union arms was received with unbounded enthusiasm, and heartfelt prayers were offered to the God of battles, who in His infinite mercy had vouchsafed such a brilliant ending to the long turmoil of civil strife. After four years of bloody war—after the sacrifice of hundreds of thousands of gallant men and millions of treasure, the great rebellion was at an end, the Government preserved, and freedom perpetuated.

The following poem, found by the writer, uncredited, in one of the local papers of Findlay, aptly illustrates the feeling of the people at the close of the war:

VICTORY.

When God gave us Richmond, and victory o'er Lee,
The dark clouds of war, like a scroll, rolled away;
Peace shed her bright halo o'er land and o'er sea,
And ushered the glory of freedom's glad day.

Thrill the heart with such joy as the ransomed may feel!
Fling aloft the proud flag in its radiant light,
From steeple and turret, from mountain top, peal
The tidings of victory, the triumph of right.

But there steals through the sound of thanksgiving and praise,
A low wail of anguish for brave hearts at rest;
Their blood was the purchase that Liberty gave,
That this may henceforth be the land of the blest.

Lift the flag of the free to the azure above,
Let the nation rejoice in the victory won;
Bear the message, ye angels, on swift wings of love,
A Republic redeemed by the blood of her sons.

According to previous announcement a grand celebration was held at Findlay, April 14, 1865, to rejoice over the dawn of a glorious peace. The day was bright and cheerful, and nature seemed to smile on the exalted happiness of the people. The exercises commenced at 6 o'clock in the morning with the ringing of bells, and the firing of a salute of thirty-six guns. As the day wore on crowds of people came pouring into Findlay. At 10 o'clock services were held in several of the churches, and shortly after noon a large audience gathered at the Court House where appropriate addresses were delivered by Revs. Rose and Wykes. In the evening there was a fine display of fireworks, and every business house, as well as many of the private dwellings, was brilliantly illuminated. This joy, however, was destined to be short-lived, and suddenly changed to deep mourning. About 10 o'clock on the following morning the news of President Lincoln's assassination reached Findlay, and fell like a pall on the hearts of its citizens. Every one was horror-stricken at the awful deed, and never was there so much

feeling manifested by the true and loyal hearts of Hancock County. In a short time all of the business houses were closed and draped in mourning, and the flags dressed in crape and raised at half mast. In the afternoon a public meeting was held at the Court House to express the sentiments of the people on the assassination of the President, and deep gloom filled every honest heart. The *Jeffersonian* fully expressed in the following poem the deep feeling of the people throughout the county at that time:

APRIL 15, 1865.

Toll the slow bells! fire the minute guns!
Let rain-drenched flags at half-mast droop!
This grief a nation's great heart stuns,
Beneath this burden strong men stoop.

Hang mourning emblems o'er the walls
So lately winged with banners gay!
He saved our flag from treason's thralls,
Who slain by traitors lies to-day.

Let wailing fife and muffled drum
Make moan as for a hero dead!
But, oh! our deepest grief is dumb,
Our bitterest tears congeal unshed.

We loved him; and the traitors live
Who forged the bolt that struck him down!
'Tis not for us to say, "Forgive,"
When Lincoln's blood cries from the ground.

Lincoln, who stood so far above
These war-clouds that his great heart felt
Even for the South a yearning love,
Which must at least e'en rebels melt.

Oh! by the love he bore our land,
By these four years of toil for us,
By all he was, so good, so grand,
Our hearts cry out for vengeance just.

Soon after the war ended, the Union armies were discharged and returned to their homes, and once more joy reigned supreme around hundreds of firesides in Hancock County. Orators, journalists and historians have recorded the numerous well-contested battles, campaigns and marches of these great armies, and their wonderful achievements are enshrined upon the choicest pages of American poetry and eloquence. The spirit of patriotism that caused them to enlist, that sustained them through the trials and perils of the war, now pervades and radiates from all the institutions of the land, and is felt in every patriotic heart. To the survivors has been vouchsafed the blessing to witness the grand results of all their sacrifices, in a reunited country pursuing a common destiny under a government offering equal rights to all, while the name and fame of those who have fallen either on the battlefield or in the line of duty, have been commemorated through the pages of history and on the beautiful monuments of marble and bronze prominent in city, town and village all over this broad land.

CHAPTER X.

ALLEN TOWNSHIP.

ERECTION, NAME, AREA, POPULATION AND BOUNDARIES—WILDCAT THICKET—STREAMS, TOPOGRAPHY AND SOIL—PIONEERS—FIRST MARRIAGE AND DEATH—THE BURMAN AND ENSMINGER MILLS—KILLING OF JOHN GILCHRIST AND SON—FIRST ELECTORS—JUSTICES—EARLY SCHOOLS—CHURCHES—VILLAGES—VAN BUREN AND STUARTVILLE.

THIS township was the last one organized in Hancock County, being erected in June, 1850, from territory previously embraced in Cass and Portage Townships, taking twelve sections from each. It was named in honor of Gen. Ethan Allen, of revolutionary fame, and contains an area of twenty-four square miles, or 15,360 acres. The official census of 1850 gave Allen a population of 869; 1860, 1,009; 1870, 969, and 1880, 1,025. The west half of the township lies in Township 2 north, Range 10, and the east half in Range 11. Allen is bounded on the north by Wood County, on the east by Cass Township, on the south by Findlay Township, and on the west by Portage Township.

When the first settlers built their cabins in this portion of the county, the original forest was unbroken by a single clearing, unless the almost impenetrable tract called "Wildcat Thicket" could be so named. This was a strip of fallen timber extending across the township from west to east, and covered with a dense undergrowth, where wild animals of every sort took refuge. The forest had evidently been blown down by a hurricane from the west long prior to the coming of the whites, and bushes and vines of every sort covered the decaying timber like a perfect network of defense.

The Middle Branch of Portage River flows in from Cass, and winds across the northwest portion of Allen Township; while the east fork of Ten Mile Creek drains the southwest corner westward into Portage. The southeast corner of the township is drained by a small branch of the Blanchard. Along the Middle Branch the surface is somewhat broken, and back from that stream may be termed elevated and rolling. The "Wildcat Thicket" was originally low and wet, but the removal of the fallen trees and judicious drainage has reclaimed the greater part of this tract. A sand and gravel belt, known as Sugar Ridge, crosses the north half of the township in a southwest direction, Van Buren being on the summit of the ridge. South of this ridge the soil is generally a mixture of sand and clay, while north of it a black, sandy loam prevails.

Pioneers.—Nathan Frakes was the first settler in this township. In 1827 he purchased of John Gardner the west half of the northeast quarter of Section 13, Township 2 north, Range 10 (entered by the latter in 1826), upon which he at once erected a small log-cabin. Frakes settled in Madison County, Ohio, prior to the organization of that county in 1810. He was there known as one of the "fighting men" of the county, and his name

figures in one or more assault and battery cases at nearly every term of court held during the first years of that county's history. He subsequently removed to Logan County, where he bore the same reputation, and kept it up after settling in Hancock, voting and fighting at the first county election, in April, 1828. As a good illustration of his character at this period, the following anecdote is told by one of the pioneers who knew him well: "A man named Enochs, who lived in Logan County, was one of the contractors in opening the Bellefontaine road, and Frakes worked for him. Enochs became afflicted with a strange and apparently incurable malady. He was not a good man by any means, and one night, believing his end was nigh, and possessing little of that religious spirit necessary on such occasions, requested Frakes to pray for him. Nathan swore he could not pray for himself, and roughly told Enochs to do his own praying. The latter finally concluded to make the attempt, and in a self-important manner began: 'Oh! Lord, what have I done that Thou persecutest me so?' when Frakes, looking at him in unfeigned disgust, blurted out, 'That's a d——d nice way to pray! What the h—ll is it that you haint done, I would like to know!'"

Frakes sold his improvement in Section 13 to Isaac Miller December 13, 1828, and in June, 1829, entered the west half of the southeast quarter of Section 12, upon which he had previously erected a cabin, with the intention of entering the land. On the 11th of June, 1830, he sold this tract to Elias L. Bryan, and removed to a farm of 115 acres in the southeast quarter of Section 10, Township 1 north, Range 10, now a part of the Infirmary Farm, which he had bought of Joseph Eversole, of Fairfield County, in January, 1830. Here he resided till his death, he dying about five years afterward, leaving a large family of children. His wife, Susannah, was an ardent Methodist, and constantly deplored her husband's combativeness. Finally Frakes met his match, being badly worsted in a rough-and-tumble fight with Josiah Elder, of Delaware Township. Going home considerably crestfallen over his defeat, he exclaimed: "Susy! Nathan has been whipped; I'll now join a temperance society, and also the church!" He kept his word, and ever afterward was a very peaceably inclined citizen. He was a large, muscular man, and bore the marks of many a savage encounter, possessing not a perfect finger on either hand.

Isaac Miller was the second pioneer of what is now Allen Township, coming in the fall of 1828. In December, 1828, he purchased the west half of the northeast quarter of Section 13, of Nathan Frakes, who had bought it of John Gardner. Miller died here early in 1830, and his family soon removed from the county.

Elias L. Bryan came in 1829, and built his cabin on the east half of the southeast quarter of Section 12, which he entered November 9th, of that year. In June, 1830, he bought out Nathan Frakes, who removed to his farm on the Blanchard, Bryan taking possession of the Frakes cabin. Bryan subsequently read medicine under Dr. Fisher, of Arcadia, and practiced the healing art in this township. He finally left the county, but at what time or where he went is not remembered. The cabins of Frakes, Miller and Bryan stood but a short distance apart, and there are few now living who personally remember their locations.

The sons of John Trout claim that he came to Hancock County in the summer of 1828, selected land and built a double-log cabin on the site of

Van Buren, and then returned to Perry County for his family, whom he brought out in December, 1828. The book of entries shows that John Trout entered the east half of the northeast quarter of Section 13, Town 2 north, Range 10, September 1, 1829, and the west half of the southwest quarter of Section 7, Town 2 north, Range 11, June 2, 1830. It is therefore opined that Mr. Trout did not settle on the site of Van Buren until December, 1829, as his first entry in this county was not made till September of that year. He was a native of Pennsylvania, whence he removed to Perry County, Ohio, where he married Miss Eleanor Skinner. Leaving Somerset November 12th, the family did not reach the little settlement on the Middle Branch of Portage River till December 14, 1829, and on the following day Mr. Trout took possession of his cabin. The trip was long and arduous, and well calculated to discourage the stoutest heart. Fording swamp, stream and river, and being compelled at times to cut their way through forest and thicket, the sturdy parents with their five children, Eliza, Ephraim, John S., George W. and Philip, trudged many a weary mile ere reaching their destination. Eliza afterward married Elisha Beeson, which was the first marriage in the settlement; while the first death was that of Cornelius, her youngest brother. Mr. Trout served in the war of 1812, and in early life followed the potter's trade. In 1833 he and George Ensminger laid out the village of Van Buren upon their land. Both he and his wife died in this township, and of their children but two survive: Ephraim, the oldest living pioneer of Allen, and John S., a resident of Liberty Township.

John Burman settled in Section 17, in April, 1831, and there resided till his death April 7, 1861, his widow surviving him until February 4, 1871. Mr. Burman was born in Northampton County, Penn., April 8, 1784. Removing to Fairfield County, Ohio, he was there married in 1813, to Miss Catherine Fisher, a native of Berks County, Penn., born November 16, 1796. He served in the war of 1812, and followed the gunsmith trade until coming to this county. In 1835–36 he erected a grist-mill on Portage Creek, but on account of low water it ran only at intervals. Mr. Burman was a worthy citizen of the county for thirty-three years, and left a family of seven sons and two daughters, only one of whom, Adam, resides in this county, he being now proprietor of the hotel at Van Buren.

Christian and Rebecca (Skinner) Barnd, with four sons (Jacob, Adna F., Elijah and Gamaliel C.) and four daughters, came from Perry County, Ohio, in 1831, and took possession of the cabin in Section 13 previously occupied by Isaac Miller. Mr. Barnd was a native of Germany, and his wife of Pennsylvania. They were married in Somerset County, Penn., and subsequently removed to Perry County, Ohio, whence they came to this township. On the 27th of June, 1831, he entered the east half of the southeast quarter of Section 13, and the west half of the southwest quarter of Section 18, now mostly owned by his son, John. In 1832 Christian Barnd and family removed to Findlay, where he and his wife spent the balance of their lives. He was a saddler and tanner, and carried on a tannery in Findlay for many years. He also served as sheriff of Hancock County for two terms, and was one of the progressive men of his day. Three of his sons have filled county offices. Jacob was prosecuting attorney a short period, and recorder two terms; Elijah was auditor two terms; while Gamaliel C. served three years as associate judge, and two terms as probate judge. The eldest son, John, has filled the office of justice of the peace in Allen Township for thirty years.

It will thus be seen that this pioneer family has been pretty well honored by their adopted county.

The year 1832 brought in quite a large number of settlers, among whom we find John Barnd, George Ensminger, Michael Ensminger, Charles Baker, Hugh Gilchrist and Peter Hockenberry. Mr. Barnd was born in Somerset County, Penn., December 30, 1808, removed to Perry County, Ohio, with his parents, there grew to manhood and married Miss Sarah Garlinger, and in 1832 came to this township. He located on the east half of the southeast quarter of Section 13, where he has ever since resided. Mr. Barnd was the first justice elected for Allen Township, and served continuously in that office from 1850 to 1880. He reared a family of eleven children, ten of whom are living. His wife died March 29, 1884, after a happy married life of more than half a century. Squire Barnd is one of the few living pioneers to whom the writer is indebted for much important information relating to early events in this portion of the State.

George Ensminger settled on the east half of the southeast quarter of Section 12, while his son, Michael, located on the northwest quarter of Section 7. They came from Wayne County, Ohio, in 1832, and the following year the former and John Trout laid out Van Buren. In 1836–37 George Ensminger built a saw-mill on Portage Creek, which proved a useful appendage to the settlement. He reared a large family, and both he and his wife died upon the old homestead. None of the children are residents of this county. Charles Baker, of Fairfield County, Ohio, built his cabin on the northeast quarter of Section 8, in 1832, where he died. The widow and family went back to Fairfield County, whence in after years one of the sons, George A., returned and occupied the old farm. Hugh Gilchrist took up his residence the same year on the northwest quarter of Section 13, and there resided till his death. The family went West soon after this event. Peter Hockenberry was a noted hunter, who located on the northwest quarter of Section 19, in 1832. He subsequently removed into what is now Portage Township, thence to Henry County, but afterward returned and died in Hancock. He farmed very little, most of his time being devoted to the chase.

In 1833 Isaac Weisel, David Dorsey, Peter Heller and Henry Rader located in the township. The first two mentioned were brothers-in-law, Mr. Weisel having married Jane Dorsey, and both were natives of Pennsylvania. Weisel settled on the southeast quarter of Section 2, where both he and his wife died in 1878 or 1879. They were the parents of ten children, six of whom survive. David and Rosanna Dorsey came from Bedford County, Penn., in October, 1833, and located near the site of Van Buren in Section 18 in what was then Cass Township. Here Allen, now a resident of the township, was born in February, 1834, being one of the first births in the settlement. In 1835 David was elected justice of Cass Township, and re-elected to the same position. He reared a family of seven children, four of whom survive, Allen and Cordelia being residents of the township, where both the father and mother died. Peter Heller, of Wayne County, Ohio, settled on the southeast quarter of Section 25, in 1833, and the same year was elected justice of Portage Township, and re-elected in 1836. He finally sold his farm, and removed to Indiana. Henry Rader, a native of Virginia, settled in 1833 on Section 13, where his son, Adam, now lives. Both he and his wife died in this township.

Daniel Warner, John Gilchrist, Christopher Ernsperger, William Dor-

sey and Isaac Wolf are believed to have settled here in 1833-34. The first mentioned located in Section 14, in February, 1834, and there a son, Daniel C., was born the following November. Mr. Warner died at the home of this son in Portage Township, in 1881. John Gilchrist located permanently near his brother Hugh in 1834, though he was in the county and voted in October, 1831. Soon after coming the Gilchrists went out one night "coon" hunting, and treed a "coon" about a mile and a half northwest of Van Buren. It became necessary to fell the tree, which, in falling, brought down another, the latter striking and killing the twelve-year old son of John Gilchrist, and injuring the father so badly that he died two days after the unfortunate occurrence, leaving a wife and five small children! Christopher Ernsperger was a son-in-law of George Ensminger, and came about two years after the latter. He subsequently removed from the county. William Dorsey came to the county about the same time as his brother David, or soon afterward. He is still a resident of the township. Isaac Wolf settled in Section 25, where he resided until his death. Two of his sons, David and John, are living in the county, the former in Findlay.

James Moorhead, of Stark County, Ohio, built his cabin on the southwest quarter of Section 26, in 1835. His wife, Agnes, died there, and he married again. He reared a large family, and now makes his home with his daughter in Eagle Township. John Raney settled in Section 23 in 1835, but soon moved away. Josiah Moorhead came in 1836, and settled in Section 36. Cyrus Hart also located here in 1836, and Abraham Kempher, John Beeson and Samuel Huntington in 1837. John Hardy moved in from Cass Township in 1837, and resided here till his death, in 1860. He was one of the pioneer school teachers of the township, and for more than twenty-five years taught during the winter seasons. He was a member of the Methodist Church after his marriage with Martha Orr, in 1822, and settled in what is now Cass Township in 1833, whence he removed to Portage (now Allen) four years afterward. Mr. Hardy was the father of five children, two of whom are residents of the county. His widow died in 1866. Others may have come in prior to 1837, but if so, careful research has failed to discover their names.

First Electors.—At the organization of Cass and Portage Townships in April, 1833, each embraced half of what is now Allen Township, and Squire John Barnd says that the following list includes all of the voters then living inside of the boundaries of the latter subdivision: Elias L. Bryan, John Trout, John Burman, John Barnd, Hugh Gilchrist, Charles Baker, Peter Hockenberry, George Ensminger, Michael Ensminger, James Wiley and James Howard. The last two mentioned never settled in the township, but were staying here temporarily at that time, and were allowed to vote.

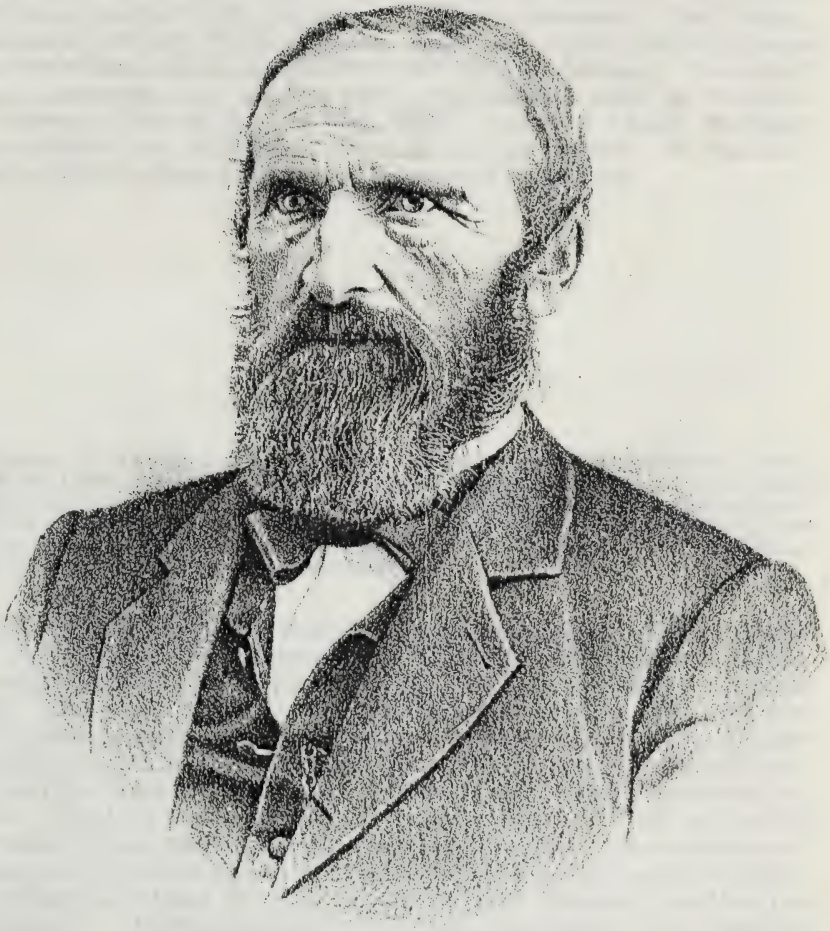
Justices.—John Barnd (from 1850 to 1880), W. L. Heller, J. W. McCaughey, Philip Burman, Robert Thornburg, G. W. Barnd, John H. Spitler and Thomas Briggs. The last two mentioned are the present incumbents of the office.

Early Schools.—The first schoolhouse in this township was a small log structure built in 1836, on the section line immediately west of the present building on the farm of Peter Whetstone. It stood in the center of the road now occupying the section line between 13 and 14, and was built of round logs, covered with a clapboard roof, had greased paper windows and a huge fireplace in one end. The Bryans, Trouts, Burmans, Ensmingers,

Barnds, Gilchrists, Warners and Raders attended this school, which was the only one in the settlement for several years, excepting one on the farm of James Moorhead, which was also opened at an early day. The pupils attending the latter, however, were principally from what is now Portage Township, and the pioneers of Allen scarcely remember it. With the growth of population more schoolhouses became a necessity, and from time to time districts were organized and schools opened. There are now nine good school buildings in Allen, that in Van Buren having two rooms.

Churches.—The two Presbyterian societies—Pleasant Hill and Ebenezer—organized in Portage and Cass Townships, respectively, united September 1, 1843, as West Union Church of Van Buren, and put up a frame building in Van Buren, about 1855, which was the first church erected in the township. The Presbyterians of this vicinity have since generally attended services here. The old building has been replaced by a substantial brick one, more in harmony with the times. Rev. George Van Eman was the earliest pastor of this congregation, which embraced many of the pioneers previously spoken of in this chapter, besides those in Portage and Cass. The old frame is now used as a dwelling. The Baptist Church in Van Buren is the lineal successor of the society organized at the cabin of Merriman Price, on Ten Mile Creek, about 1836, though reorganized at Henry Rader's in 1855. Meetings were held at the houses of members until the erection of the present building in Van Buren, which has since been used. The United Brethren erected their church in Van Buren in 1868, while the German Lutheran and Reformed denominations purchased and fitted up the old frame schoolhouse in Van Buren. These are the only churches in the township, and most of them have good-sized congregations.

Villages.—Van Buren was laid out December 28, 1833, by George Ensminger and John Trout, on Sections 12 and 13, Range 10, and 7 and 18, Range 11, and originally comprised fifty-three lots surrounding a public square. It was named in honor of Martin Van Buren, who at that time was one of the eminent public men of the nation. Several buildings were put up at once, and for a time the little village became quite a busy point; but after a season of prosperity its growth came to a standstill, and it has never got further than a small country town. A postoffice was established in the village in 1837, and the following postmasters have held the office: Dr. George Springer, John Zarbaugh, S. M. Heller, C. S. Wilkinson, Lewis Michaels, Dr. E. C. Wells, Daniel Frick, L. J. Hissong, Solomon Zarbaugh, H. C. Hartman, John Lee and Mrs. E. Wells. In June, 1866, Van Buren was incorporated, and Daniel Frick elected mayor. His successors have been C. S. Wilkinson, J. H. Loehr, Dr. E. C. Wells, Dr. Edward George, Abraham Mummert, L. P. McCune and Abraham Mummert. The town lies seven miles north of Findlay, on the Toledo, Columbus & Southern Railroad, which was completed through Van Buren in the winter of 1882–83. Its business interests consist of two general dry goods and grocery stores, a shoe shop, two blacksmith shops, a wagon shop, a steam saw-mill, a produce dealer, a hotel, a saloon and one physician—Dr. Edward George. A steam grist-mill was built in Van Buren many years ago, but it has been abandoned about seven years, and the deserted building is all that is left of its past usefulness. In 1870 Van Buren had a population of 157, and in 1880, 130, a falling off of 27 in ten years. No apparent increase has since taken place, and the village wears an appearance of age



Geo. W. Powell



and general debility. The town, however, can boast of four churches and a good two-storied brick schoolhouse of two rooms.

Silverwood, better known as Stuartville, was laid out in March, 1883, by Addison J. Silverwood, Nancy A. Silverwood and Anthony Huntington. It lies in Sections 24 and 25, Range 10, and Section 19, Range 11, on both sides of the New York, Chicago & St. Louis Railroad. The Toledo, Columbus & Southern Railroad passes north and south a short distance east of the village, which has therefore good railroad facilities. Two small stores, a blacksmith shop, a saloon and a grain elevator make up the business interests of Stuartville. In May, 1883, a postoffice named Mortimer was established here, with James Huntington as postmaster. He was succeeded in 1885 by Mrs. A. V. Myers, the present incumbent.

CHAPTER XI.

AMANDA TOWNSHIP.

FORMATION, TAXABLE LANDS IN 1829, AND CHANGES IN TERRITORY—AREA, BOUNDARIES AND POPULATION—PHYSICAL FEATURES—SOIL—STREAMS AND BIG SPRING—PIONEERS—JUSTICES OF THE PEACE—SCHOOLS—CHURCHES—EARLY MILLS—POSTOFFICES AND VILLAGES—THE PROPOSED TOWN OF CAPERNAUM—VANLUE, ITS POSTMASTERS, EARLY BUSINESS MEN, AND PRESENT MATERIAL AND SOCIAL INTERESTS.

THIS subdivision dates its erection back to the spring of 1828, Amanda and Welfare (now Delaware) being formed from the southeast portion of Findlay Township, which since May 28, 1823, had embraced the whole county. The entire land tax of Amanda Township in 1829, was $4.30, and only 252 acres were then subject to taxation under the existing law. On the 7th of December, 1829, Jackson Township was formed from Amanda and Delaware, and December 6, 1830, a part of Amanda was taken in the erection of Marion. Big Lick was cut off from Amanda March 7, 1831, and on the same date it was ordered by the commissioners that "the township of Amanda shall hereafter consist of the original Township 1 south, in Range 12, and Sections 34 and 35 in the original surveyed Township 1 north in the 12th Range." On the 3d of June, 1833, those two sections were attached to Big Lick. Upon the erection of Ridge Township, June 5, 1838, Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 11, 12, 13 and 14, Township 1 south, Range 12, were taken from Amanda in the formation of the new township, which existed till March 5, 1845, when the previous erection of Wyandot County took forty-five sections off the southeast part of Hancock, and made necessary a reformation in the lines of Amanda, Big Lick and Delaware Townships. Sections 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 34, 35 and 36 were cut off the east side of Amanda, and became a part of Wyandot County. Ridge Township, as a subdivision of Hancock, was abandoned, and its territory remaining in this county, attached to Big Lick and Amanda Townships from which it was originally formed, Amanda receiving Sections 3, 4, 5 and 6 in Township 1

south, Range 12. By act of the commissioners (March 5, 1845), the eastern tier of sections, from 1 to 36 inclusive, in Township 1 south, Range 11, previously belonging to Jackson, was attached to Amanda Township, and thus its territory has since remained.

Amanda now contains twenty-seven sections, or an area of 17,280 acres. It is one of the southeast townships of the county, and is bounded as follows: On the north by Big Lick and Marion Townships, on the east by Wyandot County, on the south by Wyandot County and Delaware Township, and on the west by Jackson Township. In 1840 Amanda had a population of 490; 1850, 1,162; 1860, 1,470; 1870, 1,469; 1880, 1,474—a total gain from 1860 to 1880 of only four inhabitants.

The surface of this township is generally very level, possessing a distinct characteristic sameness throughout its length and breadth. A very heavy forest of the several kinds of timber found in this part of the State originally covered the soil. In the northeast portion of Amanda is a tract known as "the fallen timber," the forest having been undermined by the peat covering the surface taking fire in the fall of 1828, and burning the roots of the trees. This tract embraces several hundred acres, which was originally covered with water most of the year, the large trees lying upon the ground preventing the natural drainage of the surface. The "swamp" lies in the southeast part of the township, and is a strip of flat land extending from east to west nearly across the township. It also underwent the burning process, and was very thinly timbered.

Along the Blanchard the soil is a rich alluvial deposit, but in the eastern section of the township, excepting in the "fallen timber" and "swamp" tracts, a clay soil with a sand and gravel mixture prevails. The "fallen timber" tract is a mixed soil composed of vegetable mold, derived from the rotting trees and decayed vegetation, and the sandy clay natural to the township. This combination is highly prized by the agriculturist. Covering the "swamp" is a deep muck or loam and decayed vegetation, very light and susceptible to droughts. The first settlers regarded this tract as almost worthless and totally unfit for cultivation, but judicious drainage has reclaimed most of these lands; and when the top muck is thoroughly mixed, by deep plowing, with the underlying clay a valuable soil is formed, the muck itself being too light to retain sufficient moisture for the growing crop during the hot season.

Amanda is favored with plenty of good water and fair natural drainage facilities. The Blanchard River winds northward through the western tier of sections, and thoroughly waters the country contiguous thereto. Buck Run is the only important local tributary. It flows northwestward from the southeast corner of the township, and empties into the Blanchard on the northeast quarter of Section 12. Potato Creek crosses the southwest corner of Amanda and strikes the Blanchard just across the line in Jackson Township. Northeast of Vanlue, in Section 3, on the farm of William Smith, is the celebrated "Big Spring," thus named because it is the largest spring in Hancock County. The cool, pure spring water gushes forth in a torrent from its sandy bed, and ripples onward in a clear stream, supplying water for the stock of the whole neighborhood. This spring furnished power at an early day for a carding machine and a small corn-mill, both of which did good service during their existence. Big Spring is invaluable to the farmers of that locality, and many a wayfarer has here slaked his thirst and watched with delight its pure bubbling waters.

Pioneers.—Thomas Thompson, a native of Virginia, was the first settler in this township. On the 25th of February, 1822, he entered the east half of the northwest quarter, and January 18, 1823, the west half of the northwest quarter of Section 3; and in the summer of 1823 built a cabin, cleared a patch of ground and planted a crop of potatoes. He remained on his land till the crop was gathered and stored, and then returned to Pickaway County, Ohio, for his family, which he brought out early in 1824. In the first list of taxable property, taken by Wilson Vance in the spring of 1824, Mr. Thompson is assessed for one horse and five head of cattle, and marked opposite his name is the note "taken in from lady," a conclusive evidence that his wife and family were then here. Mr. Thompson was the first justice of Amanda, and a resident of the township until his death, which occurred at Vanlue, October 26, 1873. He removed from his farm, on Section 3, a few years prior to his decease, as increasing age and infirmities compelled him to retire from the busy cares of life. He was twice married, his first wife, Miss Anna Williamson, coming with him from Pickaway County. She died in 1850, and in 1852 he married Mrs. Benjamin Nigh, *nee* Lake, who still survives him, and is residing in Findlay. His first wife bore him twelve children, six of whom reached maturity, but only one, William, is now living. One daughter, Mrs. James Moyer, of Findlay, is the fruit of his second marriage.

Abraham and Sarah A. Huff and family were the next to locate in Amanda Township. Mr. Huff came in 1825, and subsequently purchased, with Samuel Sargent, 320 acres of land of Henry McWhorter, lying in Big Lick and Amanda. In 1829 a division of these lands took place, Huff getting eighty acres in each subdivision. He settled on the west half of the northeast quarter of Section 3, Amanda Township, close to the Big Spring, entered by Henry McWhorter, February 27, 1822. In March, 1828, he was appointed associate judge of Hancock County, and served seven years. Mr. Huff laid out a town named Capernaum on his farm, March 14, 1831, but no lots were sold or buildings erected. Judge Huff was an honorable, upright man, possessing a large share of strong, common sense. He once kept a small store at his house, and is pretty well remembered by the older citizens, who patronized the establishment. Soon after the expiration of his judgeship he removed with his family to Missouri and never returned.

One of the oldest pioneers of Hancock County, Major Bright, great-grandfather of Nimrod W. Bright, of Amanda Township, located or entered 3,000 acres of land in this township, and was an extensive stock-raiser.

John Huff, John Shoemaker, William Hackney and James Beard all came to the township in 1826. Huff entered the west half of the southeast quarter of Section 3, December 29, 1825, upon which he settled, but in 1828 he removed to Big Lick Township, where a further mention of him will be found. Shoemaker built his cabin on the east half of the northeast quarter of Section 18, which he entered December 18, 1826, and here he resided till February, 1829, when he also removed to Big Lick, where he died in the spring of 1882.* Mr. Hackney entered the east half of the northeast quarter of Section 3, November 4, 1824, and early in 1826 settled upon it. In April, 1826, he was elected one of the justices of Findlay Township, then co-extensive with the county. In April, 1828, he was elected county assessor, and auditor the following October. He then

*See History of Big Lick Township.

removed to Findlay, where he resided several years. Mr. Hackney was a man of good education, and one of the pioneer school teachers of the county. His wife was a sister of Joseph C. Shannon, also of Mrs. John J. Hendricks. The family went from here to Springfield, Ill., leaving no descendants in this county. James Beard settled close to Shoemaker in Section 18. He voted at the first county election in April, 1828. After many years' residence he went to Indiana and there died.

John J. and Eleanor F. Hendricks came late in 1826, and settled on the Blanchard, on the east half of the northeast quarter of Section 12, in the northwest corner of what is now Amanda Township. In 1830 he sold his land to Jesse Gilbert, and removed to Liberty Township. He too was one of the seventy-four electors of April, 1828, and the second justice of Amanda. The reader will find further mention of him in the sketch of Liberty Township.

Thomas Huff was another settler of this period. He was a brother of Abraham Huff, and located in the same neighborhood. After a residence here of many years he moved to Peoria County, Ill., and is buried in the cemetery at Chillicothe.

Henry George and family were among the next year's settlers. He and his wife, Catherine, were natives of Lehigh County, Penn., whence, with two children, Peter and Polly, they removed to Fairfield Co., Ohio, and thence to Pickaway County. In 1827, with a family of three sons and seven daughters, they came to this township and located on the southwest quarter of Section 17, where the parents resided till their death. Henry and Peter, the elder sons, were two of the seventy-four voters at the first county election. Of the ten children who came to this county, only five are living, viz.: Daniel and Lucy, in Findlay, Joseph and Sarah, in Cary, and Betsy, in Michigan. The deceased are Peter, Polly, Hannah, Susan and Eva. Peter was the best known of the family. Born in Pennsylvania, October 13, 1799, he grew to manhood in Ohio, and in November, 1823, visited Hancock County, and entered a piece of land in Section 35, Jackson Township, but did not settle here permanently until the coming of his parents, in 1827. He then took up 160 acres of land on Section 7, Amanda Township, erected a cabin and made a clearing. In 1830 he married Miss Mary Woodruff, a native of Pickaway County, Ohio, who bore him five sons and four daughters, five of whom survive. Throughout the pioneer days Peter George was known far and wide as a veteran "land hunter." He was a noted guide for those looking up lands in this section of the State, and was familiar with every part of Hancock County. He served two consecutive terms as commissioner of the county, and was a very highly respected citizen. He died December 10, 1884; his aged widow still resides in the county where she has spent the greater part of her life.

John and Sarah Beard, of Fairfield County, Ohio, located in the township late in 1827, following their son James, who came in 1826. Their sons were Joseph, James, Samuel, Amos, Elijah and Adam. James and Amos voted at the first county election in April, 1828, while the father, John, was one of the petit jurors in the June session of that year. Some of the family settled in Amanda and others in Marion, where Adam now lives. The parents died here, and some of the sons went West.

Jesse and John Howitt settled in the northeast corner of the township in 1827. The former voted at the first county election; but little further is remembered of them.

Aquilla Gilbert, now a resident of Vanlue, came to the county with his brother-in-law, Mordecai Hammond, in the fall of 1827, though only for the purpose of assisting the latter in moving from Pickaway County. Mr. Gilbert was born in York County, Penn., September 18, 1803, there grew to manhood, and in 1823 married Catherine Hartman. He subsequently removed to Ohio, where she died in 1828, leaving two children. The same fall he again came to this county, and June 2, 1829, entered the west half of the southeast quarter of Section 24, on the east bank of the Blanchard. He spent the winter of 1828–29 at the home of Mr. Hammond, and June 28, 1829, was married, by Asa M. Lake, J. P., to Miss Lorain P. Hamlin, a daughter of Daniel Hamlin, of Delaware Township, and the same year settled on his land. Four children survive this union, his wife dying March 31, 1841. On the 6th of July, 1841, he married Julia A. Askam, who is the mother of four living children. Mr. Gilbert was elected justice of the peace of Jackson Township (wherein his home was then located) in 1830, and re-elected four times in succession. In 1832 he taught the first school opened in his neighborhood, being the second in what is now Amanda Township. He served two terms as county commissioner, and after the tier of sections in which his home lies was attached to Amanda, he served three successive terms as justice of the latter subdivision. Thus for thirty years Mr. Gilbert was actively engaged in the transaction of public business, and has always taken a deep interest in the progress of his adopted county. In 1856 he removed to Vanlue, where he has ever since resided, while his residence in the township extends back over a period of fifty-seven years.

The years 1828–29 brought Thomas Cole, David Hagerman, Joseph Whiteman, Andrew Robb, William Ebright, Henry Keel, Samuel Gordon and James Gibson. Cole and Hagerman came from Pickaway County, and after a residence here of several years the former went to Indiana, while Hagerman resided in Amanda until this death. Joseph Whiteman lived in several different parts of the township, and finally died in the county. He was of a restless disposition and never remained long in any place, so that he is but faintly remembered. Andrew Robb entered the east half of the northwest quarter of Section 13, May 7, 1828. His cabin stood not far from the home of Aquilla Gilbert, who remembers him as a very worthy man. He, however, died in 1830, soon after settling here. William Ebright and family came early in 1829, and in March of the latter year he and his son, Philip, were two of the petitioners for a road to Findlay. He settled on the Blanchard, in Section 13, but subsequently removed to Eagle Township, and assisted in organizing that subdivision. Henry Keel, with his wife Catherine and family, removed from Pennsylvania to Fairfield County, Ohio, about 1823, and in 1829 located on the Blanchard in this township. In 1833 Mr. Keel and family moved into Eagle Township, where both he and his wife died. Four of their children are residents of the county. Samuel Gordon was for many years a leading citizen of the township, where he settled in 1829. In 1831 he was elected justice of the peace, and re-elected five times in succession. Mr. Gordon is kindly remembered by the few old settlers now living who knew him best.

James Gibson, with his family, settled in Section 1, in what is now the northwest corner of Amanda Township, in 1829. His son Charles was a young man when the family came to the county. The parents died on the old homestead, and were buried in the Vanhorn Cemetery. None of the children are living in this county.

A large number of settlers came to Amanda in 1829 and 1830, all of whom brought families. Among those best remembered are David Morehart, Adam Alspach, Lemuel Farthing, David Egbert, Henry Treese, John G. Litsenberger, John Dipert, Darius Smith and Sanford Smith. David and Elizabeth (Fenstemaker) Morehart were natives of Pennsylvania, who first located in Fairfield County, Ohio. In 1829 he entered land in Section 5, Amanda Township, and the following year, with his wife and daughter, Mary (wife of J. M. Van Horn), settled on the land where his son, Jesse D. now lives. They had a family of fourteen children, and a large number of their descendants yet reside in the county. The parents died upon the old homestead in Section 5.

Adam Alspach was also a native of Pennsylvania, born in 1788. About 1808 he came to Fairfield County, Ohio, and served in the war of 1812. He married in Fairfield County, Barbara Wyant, a native of the Keystone State, and in the spring of 1830, with his wife and six children, took up his abode in the forest of Amanda Township. He built his cabin in Section 19, were one daughter was subsequently born to him. Mr. Alspach died in this township, but his sons, Daniel and Aaron, are surviving pioneers of Amanda Township.

Lemuel and Mary (Riordan) Farthing were natives of Virginia, and first located in Gallia County, Ohio, removing to Amanda Township in 1830, where both died. They were the parents of nine children, three of whom survive.

David and Mary Egbert were born in New Jersey, thence removed to the Susquehanna River, and in 1812 settled in Fairfield County, Ohio. In 1822 the Egberts left Fairfield and took up their residence in Seneca County, and June 1, 1829, entered land in the northwest part of this township, upon which the family settled the same or following year. In 1831–32, David removed to Marion Township, where he was elected justice of the peace in the latter year. They had a family of ten children, six of whom are living. One of the sons, Uriah W., may justly be regarded as a pioneer of Amanda, having lived in the township for the past fifty-six years. The parents finally went to Wood County, and there passed the latter years of their lives.

Henry and Elizabeth (Hager) Treese, natives of Pennsylvania, located on the east bank of the Blanchard in the fall of 1830, where Peter was soon afterward born. The family came here from Pickaway County, Ohio, and the parents spent the remainder of their days in Hancock County. Peter Treese now resides on the old homestead in Section 24, while George, an older brother, lives in Jackson Township.

John G. and Mary Litsenberger, with their sons, George, Daniel, Isaac, Henry, John and Jacob, all natives of Pennsylvania, came from Fairfield County, Ohio, in 1830, and settled in Section 13, where the father died. Jacob, now living in Vanlue, is the only one of John's children residing in Hancock.

Adam Hoy came to the township about this time, or perhaps a little earlier. He entered land in Amanda in 1829, and lived in that township up to within a few years. His name appears among the voters at the October election of 1831, and he was one of the organizers of the Pioneer Association in 1874.

John Dipert and wife Sarah (Fenstemaker) emigrated from Fairfield County, Ohio, in 1830, and settled in Section 20. He died upon the old

homestead. Mrs. Andrew S. Beck, of Amanda, is the only one of his children living in the county.

Darius and Sanford Smith settled in the southwest corner of the township in 1830. The former served one term as county commissioner, and both died upon their farms.

Michael and Mary (Hager) Misamore and family were, perhaps, the next to settle in Amanda: the former was a native of Virginia, and the latter of Pennsylvania. They had a family of eleven children, when in 1831 they removed from Pickaway County, and settled in a small log-cabin on the east bank of the Blanchard in Section 13. In 1835, Mr. Misamore built a frame grist-mill, which supplied a very material want to the settlers of this locality. These mills were afterward run by his son John, who also rebuilt them after they were burnt down. The parents died here, and of their children three sons and two daughters survive. John resides in Section 24, immediately south of where the family settled about fifty-five years ago.

The same year (1831) John Fenstemaker, Lemuel Roberts, Arthur Stotts and Jesse Cherry settled in the township. The first mentioned, with his wife Catherine, came from Fairfield County, Ohio, and settled in Section 21, where he died. His son George is a resident of the township. Jacob and Jonas Fenstemaker, brothers of John, came to the township somewhat later, and both spent their lives in the county. Lemuel and Elizabeth Roberts were natives of Maryland, who located in Fairfield County, Ohio, in 1824, and seven years later took up their residence in Section 2, cut off in the erection of Wyandot County in 1845. Arthur Stotts was from Pickaway County, Ohio, and settled in Section 15. He and his wife subsequently removed to Lima. Jesse Cherry, also from Pickaway County, located close to Stotts, and both he and his wife died upon the old homestead. Andrew Beck and family came from Fairfield County, Ohio, with his brother-in-law, John Fenstemaker, and located on land in this township previously entered by his father, Andrew Beck, Sr., who had taken up several hundred acres. His brother Daniel came out about two years later, and afterward their brothers, Henry, Peter and John, joined the settlement, all locating in what is now Amanda, except Henry whose farm was in Ridge, and included in the territory taken in the erection of Wyandot County. The parents, Andrew and Catherine, did not settle here until some time after the sons, and both died in the township. Andrew, Jr., died near Wharton; Daniel removed to Missouri and there died; Henry died on his farm in Wyandot County; Peter died in this township; John resides in Indiana, and the two daughters, Mrs. John Fenstemaker and Mrs. Jacob Bacher, live on their respective homesteads in Hancock and Wyandot Counties.

In 1832, Andrew and George Morehart, Elisha Brown and John Moore took up their residence in the forest of Amanda. The Morehearts, natives of Pennsylvania, settled in Fairfield County, Ohio, in 1817, whence they came to this township. Andrew had a family of thirteen children, six of whom are living. Both he and George died in this county. Elisha Brown and family came from Pickaway County in the fall of the year and settled in Section 9. He served one term as Sheriff of Hancock County, and died in Vanlue. Two of his daughters are residents of the county. John and Annie Moore were natives of Maryland, and removed first to Fairfield Co., Ohio, thence to Hancock, settling in the vicinity of the Big Spring, where both died. Three of their children are yet living. Amos, who now resides

near Vanlue, was a man of twenty-five when his parents came to the township. He carried on the manufacture of spinning wheels at the old farm till sometime after the breaking out of the war of the rebellion.

In 1833 Gershom Plotts, Charles Van Horn and David H. Harshbarger came into the township. Mr. Plotts, a native of Pennsylvania, had a family of ten children. In the spring of 1833 he removed from Fairfield County, Ohio and took up his residence in Section 16. In 1854 he and wife went to Michigan, where both died, but three of the sons—John, W. L. and Ira—are residents of Vanlue. Mr. Van Horn was born in Bucks County, Penn., April 18, 1801, and in 1826 married Sarah Twining, who bore him ten children, all but one of whom survive. He removed from Pennsylvania to Jefferson County, Ohio, and in 1833 to Amanda Township, purchasing forty acres of land, of which about five acres had been cleared. Here he began life in Hancock County, and here he passed the balance of his days, adding, through the fleeting years, other acres to his original purchase. His children are George W., James M., Robert, Mary, Martha, Phœbe, Sarah, Charles E. and John. Very little is remembered of David H. Harshbarger, only that he settled on the Blanchard, in Section 36, where he died at an early day, of "milk-sickness."

Another family of the Moreharts settled in Amanda Township in the spring of 1834, viz.: Washington, William Josiah, Sarah and Maria Morehart, natives of Fairfield County, Ohio. They located on the southwest quarter of Section 15, entered by Washington, July 29, 1833, and now the property of George Huff. Washington is the best known of this family. Born in Fairfield County, in 1817, he had not reached manhood when his mother came to this township. In 1839 he married Elizabeth Breiner, who bore him three daughters. In 1874 he removed from his farm in Section 9 to Vanlue, where his wife died, in December, 1884. Mr. Morehart is one of the most intelligent and progressive farmers of the township.

Jacob Starr, Samuel Ewing, John McLeod and Richard M. Lee, all came in or about 1834. Jacob Starr was a native of Virginia, married in Fairfield County, Ohio, and in the spring of 1834 located in Amanda. Mr. and Mrs. Starr were the parents of seven children, some of whom are residents of the township. Mr. Ewing was born in Maryland, and married Rebecca Alspach, of Fairfield County, Ohio, whence, in 1834, he removed to Hancock. He died in this township. John and Elizabeth McLeod raised a family of eleven children, several of whom are yet residents of the county. Richard and Lydia (Wyant) Lee came from Fairfield County, Ohio, about the same time as the foregoing pioneers, settling in Section 20, where former died in 1854, latter in 1882. They were parents of seven sons and one daughter, all living but one.

The following year (1835) Joseph C. Carver and Lowman Pratt located in the township. Mr. Carver was born in Bucks County, Penn., October 10, 1808, and on coming to Amanda the family lived for a brief period in a building where salts and pearl ash had been manufactured, locally called the "ashery," which stood in the northwest part of the township. He subsequently entered eighty acres of land in Section 6, to which he added forty acres more, and has ever since resided on this farm. He is the father of eight children, five now living. Mr. Pratt, also a native of the Keystone State, settled in Section 29, where his son Lewis now resides. His wife, Rachel (Kelly), bore him three sons and five daughters, of whom two sons



H. S. Hamlin



and three daughters survive. Mr. Pratt died in 1865, and his widow in 1872. The first twelve years of the township's settlement have now been run through; and though there may be others besides those given who settled in Amanda from 1823 to 1835, yet the ones mentioned are best known and remembered. It must not be supposed that all of these pioneers were men and women of unblemished character and indomitable energy, but taking them as a whole they will bear comparison with those who have taken their places. This is readily and freely admitted by their descendants, and if the future generations but cling firmly to the precepts and principles of the pioneers, Amanda will have good cause to be proud of her record.

Justices of the Peace.—Prior to the erection of Amanda Township, in 1828, William Hackney, who lived in this section of the county, was one of the two justices of Findlay Township, but since that event the following citizens have filled the office: Thomas Thompson, John J. Hendricks, Samuel Gordon, Abraham Kern, John Thompson, William Vanlue, Aquilla Gilbert, B. A. Etherton, John Crawford (yet serving), T. B. Gilbert, Ira Plotts, B. F. Burnap and R. M. Lee.

Schools.—The first school in Amanda Township was taught by George Smith in the winter of 1830–31. It was held in a small log building on the farm of Uriah Egbert, and the Georges, Beards, Shoemakers, Moreharts and others were the pupils in attendance. In 1831 a log schoolhouse was erected near the center of the township, which was patronized by all the families then living in that locality who had children old enough to attend school. The second school building was put up in Section 13, in the fall of 1832. Aquilla Gilbert opened a school here in the winter of 1832–33, and says his pupils were the Misamores, Treeses, Gibsons, Egberts and his own children. He received $1.50 per quarter for each scholar, and he says: "I did not board at the homes of my patrons, as stated in a recent publication, but ate and slept at my own cabin on the Blanchard." It is noticeable that the pioneers of this township early began to foster and support schools, which as the population increased became more plentiful and of greater efficiency. There are now eight good schoolhouses outside of Vanlue, the latter being a special district.

Churches.—The first sermon ever preached in this locality was by the Rev. Thomas Thompson, a Methodist Episcopal itinerant, at the cabin of Henry George. He subsequently preached at other cabins in the township, but it is not known that any class or organization of Methodists was effected. The German Lutherans organized the first society in Amanda, and in 1831 erected a hewed-log church on the southeast corner of Section 18, where the United Brethren meeting-house now stands. Among the organizers of this society were Frederick Benner and wife, Adam Alspach and wife, John Fenstemaker and wife, John Dipert and wife, David Morehart and wife and several of the Becks. This church went down many years ago. Amanda now contains eight churches, viz.: One English Lutheran, one Methodist Episcopal, one Methodist Protestant, two United Brethren, one Baptist, one German Reformed and one Disciples, all of which have good congregations and regular services.

Early Mills.—In 1835 Michael Misamore erected a grist-mill in Section 13, on the east bank of the Blanchard. This was the first mill in what is now Amanda, as well as the first frame structure built in the township. It was run by water power, and the grinding was therefore uncertain, through

freezing in winter and low water in the summer season. Nevertheless, it was a great boon to the pioneers of the surrounding country, who often had to travel long distances through the forest, with a small grist, ere the little ones could taste the luxury of a wheat cake. This mill was burned down and afterward rebuilt by John Misamore, who also erected a saw-mill close to it. He ran these mills some twenty years and then sold the property, but they have ever since been in operation, whenever there was sufficient water to furnish power.

Another early mill, if it could be dignified by that title, was put up at the Big Spring, in Section 3. It was built for a carding mill, but buhrs were subsequently added, and considerable corn meal ground. The power was furnished by the water from the spring. Of course many temporary saw-mills have been in operation from time to time, and though serving a good purpose were removed so soon as the timber in their respective localities became scarce. The next mill of importance was built at Vanlue in 1855–56, and will be spoken of in the sketch of that village. No other grist-mills have been operated in the township.

Postoffices and Villages.—Blanchard Bridge postoffice was established at the house of Aquilla Gilbert, in Section 24, in 1841. Mr. Gilbert was the first and only postmaster, and the office was discontinued in 1861. Soon after the establishment of Blanchard Bridge, another office, called "Ashery," was opened at the house of Joseph Twining in Section 12. Mr. Twining was the first and only postmaster of "Ashery," which lasted till about 1856.

On the 14th of March, 1831, Abraham Huff laid out a town of sixteen lots on the west half of the northeast quarter of Section 3, which he recorded as Capernaum, in honor of the bible city of that name. Nothing ever came of the enterprise, and no lots were ever sold or houses erected. Its site is now a part of the Sheridan farm and its location almost forgotten.

Vanlue, the only village in the township, had its inception May 5, 1847, when William Vanlue laid out a town of 44 lots in the north part of the north half of the northeast quarter of Section 9, and named it after himself. Four additions have been made to the original plat. Vanlue postoffice was established in 1849, and has had the following postmasters: Dr. W. P. Wilson, John Wescott, Dr. W. P. Wilson, Ira Plotts, W. A. Sponsler, Daniel Gilbert and William Alspach. The first business commenced in the village was a tannery in 1847, by Thompson & Barnhart. Clawer & Green opened a general dry goods and grocery store the same year. Hiram and W. L. Plotts were the first carpenters, afterward carrying on a cabinet shop and carding-mill run by steam power. In 1847–48, S. N. Beach opened a general store, Peter Shuck a grocery and Isaac Van Horn a blacksmith shop. The earliest physicians were Drs. A. Bell, Abraham Brown, W. P. Wilson, Stover, Igert, Todd and Myers. Dr. Wilson is yet in active practice at Vanlue. The town grew considerably during the first few years of its existence, and, being located on the branch railroad from Carey to Findlay, became the great shipping point for the surrounding county. About 1851–52 a shingle factory was built, and operated a few years. In 1855–56 a grist-mill was put up by Hiram Russell, of which the present Centennial Mills is the successor. A foundry was opened in 1859, by James B. Freeman, which lasted about five years. The foregoing embrace the principal business interests of early Vanlue; but its location made it impossible for Vanlue ever to be anything more than a small country town, and after a certain stage of growth was reached its progress slackened up.

In September, 1866, Vanlue was incorporated for special purposes, and the first election for officers held April 13, 1867, resulting as follows: Elisha Brown, mayor; Abraham Brown, recorder; Hiram Pratt, Ira Plotts, B. A. Etherton, Charles H. Hatch and A. S. Roberts, council. The mayoralty has since been filled by Aquilla Gilbert, Frederick Shuler, J. H. Brown, B. F. Burnap, T. B. Gilbert, Henry T. Lee, John Ward, Charles H. Hatch (appointed to fill vacancy), Henry T. Lee, Calvin Clark, George W. Snook and E. L. E. Mumma. After its incorporation prosperity once more visited the town, and a new impetus was given to business. On December 3, 1877, Vanlue was incorporated for general purposes. The census of 1880 gave it a population of 364, though its citizens now claim about 500.

Vanlue is situated on the Findlay branch of the Indianapolis, Bloomington & Western Railroad, about ten miles southeast of the county seat. It contains two general dry goods and grocery stores, one grocery, one drug store and grocery, one hardware store, one harness shop, one furniture store, one bakery, one tin shop, one boot and shoe shop, one barber shop, two blacksmith shops, four physicians, one hotel, and two saloons. In 1855–56 a steam flouring-mill was built in Vanlue by Hiram Russell, and after passing through several ownerships was bought by Frederick Shuler in 1862. He ran it some ten years and then sold it to Jacob Wall, who in turn disposed of the property to Homer Vansant, and it was soon afterward burned to the ground. In 1876 Mr. Shuler erected the "Centennial Mills," a two and a half story frame building, which he has ever since operated. In the winter of 1884–85 Mr. Shuler put in the roller process, and now turns out a grade of flour second to none in northwestern Ohio. Two saw and planing mills are in operation in the village, and an extensive tile and brickyard, which has been very successful since its establishment in 1884, is also located here. A large grain elevator and warehouse stands near the track of the Indianapolis, Bloomington & Western Railroad. It was built soon after the road was completed, and handles, annually, thousands of bushels of wheat, corn and oats raised upon the rich lands of this vicinity.

The United Brethren denomination built the first church at Vanlue in 1851–52; the English Lutherans, the second, and the Methodist Episcopals, the third. The United Brethren have abandoned the old structure, and erected a new one. All are comfortable frame buildings, and accommodate good congregations. A good frame schoolhouse of four rooms furnishes educational facilities. R. E. Diehl is principal, and there are two assistant teachers.

Fountain Lodge No. 353, I. O. O. F., was instituted July 28, 1859, the charter members being John Wescott, Aquilla Gilbert, Abraham Brown, Harmon Pratt, Joshua Myers, Oliver Gordon, Henry Watkins and Benjamin Scott. The lodge erected a fine two-story brick building in 1883, at a cost of over $6,000, selling their old building to Ira Plotts. It now contains over 100 members, and is in a very prosperous condition.

Ellen Lodge No. 60, I. O. O. F., Daughters of Rebekah, was organized May 10, 1870.

Ladonia Lodge No. 82, I. O. G. T., was organized November 24, 1884, and has a very large membership, numbering at present 110. Thus it will be seen that the cause of temperance in Vanlue is in a flourishing condition.

CHAPTER XII.

BIG LICK TOWNSHIP.

EVENTS LEADING TO THE ERECTION OF THIS TOWNSHIP—SUBSEQUENT CHANGES IN ITS TERRITORY AND PRESENT AREA—BOUNDARIES, AND DERIVATION OF NAME—A HUNTERS' RESORT—TOPOGRAPHY AND STREAMS—PRAIRIE MARSH, SOIL AND ORIGINAL APPEARANCE—FIRST ELECTION AND POPULATION BY DECADES—FIRST SETTLERS—JUSTICES OF THE PEACE—SCHOOLS—CHURCHES—VILLAGES AND POSTOFFICES.

UPON the organization of Hancock County in 1828, the commissioners erected from Findlay Township, which then embraced the whole county, the townships of Amanda and Welfare, the name of the latter being subsequently changed to Delaware. In 1829 Jackson was formed from Delaware and Amanda, and the following year Marion was cut off from Amanda and Findlay. Thus it stood till March 7, 1831, when Big Lick was erected from territory previously embraced in Amanda, and then contained all of the lands, lying in Township 1 north, Range 12 east, except Sections 34 and 35, which remained attached to Amanda till June 3, 1833, on which date the commissioners transferred them to Big Lick. On the 5th of June, 1838, Peter Kiser, Andrew Thompson, Samuel Lininger and other citizens, of Big Lick and Amanda Townships, petitioned the board of commissioners for a new township named Ridge, to be formed from parts of Amanda and Big Lick. The petition was granted, and the two southern tiers of sections in Township 1 north, Range 12, were taken from Big Lick in the erection of Ridge. The first election in the latter subdivision was held at the house of Samuel Sargent, on Section 34, in July, 1838. The territory taken from Big Lick remained a part of Ridge until March 5, 1845, when the erection of Wyandot County took forty-five sections off the southeast corner of Hancock, making a new formation of township lines a necessity. Ridge Township, as a subdivision of this county, was abolished, and its sixteen sections remaining in Hancock were attached to Big Lick and Amanda, this township receiving back the twelve sections from 25 to 36 inclusive—taken in the formation of Ridge seven years before. Big Lick has ever since been a full Congressional township, with an area of 23,040 acres.

This township lies in the eastern part of the county, and is bounded on the north by Washington Township, on the east by Seneca County, on the south by Wyandot County and Amanda Township, and on the west by Marion Township. Big Lick received its name from the sulphur springs, or Deer Lick, on the farm of Robert Long, in Section 21, a noted resort of hunters throughout the pioneer days, and familiarly known as "The Big Lick." Here the hunter, perched in one of the trees close by, patiently awaited until the shades of evening brought forth his unsuspecting game. The deer would then leave their hiding places and steal through the forest to the lick, and while quietly enjoying the feast would be shot down by the

hidden foe. Many deer were killed at this lick by Mr. Long and other well-known hunters during the earlier years of the county's history, while from time immemorial the Indian sportsman pitched his wigwam in the vicinity of this celebrated spot, where his stock of venison could be replenished without much exertion.

The physical topography of Big Lick Township is generally level, though in some places flat, and in others slightly rolling, with a perceptible tip toward the northwest. This may be especially noticed in the sluggish outlet of the prairie, which rises in Seneca County, winds northwestward across Big Lick, and discharges its waters into the Blanchard near the northeast corner of Section 23, Marion Township. The outlet receives several small runs in its route, the largest flowing in a general southwest course from the north line of the township, and striking the main branch in the southeast corner of Section 18. Fostoria Creek, or the East Branch of Portage River, rises in the northeast corner of the township, and drains that portion northward into the main stream.

In the southern portion of the township, lying on each side of the outlet, is a marsh, or flat, wet prairie containing between 1,500 and 2,000 acres of land, composed of a deep silt and vegetable deposit of inexhaustible fertility. In pioneer days this prairie was a famous cattle range, but much of it has been reclaimed by judicious drainage, and ere many years it will all be brought under cultivation. South of the prairie is a limestone ridge—a sand and clay formation underlaid with limestone. Old settlers tell us that when the first cabins were built in the township the surface of this ridge was pretty thickly covered with flakes of limestone; hence the name. Excepting on the prairie and ridge, a clay loam is the prevailing soil throughout the township. The surface of Big Lick, except the prairie, originally bore up a splendid forest indigenous to this secton of the State. But with the passing years the scene changed rapidly; the stately trees gave way to well-tilled farms, and the Indian wigwams to comfortable homes. Very little of the more valuable timber now remains, but what does is highly prized by the judicious owner, and is carefully preserved from destruction.

First Election and Population.—Big Lick was erected in March, 1831, and the following month an election was held and the township regularly organized. The voting place was at the house of John Long, in Section 21, and the following pioneers cast their votes at that election: John Long, Robert Long, John Huff, John Shoemaker, Philip Essex, Levi Poulson, Moses Saylor and Amos Dunken, a total of eight electors. The day was spent in backwoods sport and recreation, Mrs. John Long treating the company to a good, old-fashioned dinner, in which wild game occupied a prominent place. From that time forward the township increased in population, and in 1840 contained 431 inhabitants. In 1850 it had 1,008; 1860, 1,256; 1870, 1,179, and 1880, 1,261.

First Settlers.—The land hunter found his way into this township earlier than any other portion of the county, except Findlay and Delaware Townships, for on record is an entry of the west half of the southeast quarter of Section 34, by Henry McWhorter, in September, 1821. The same gentleman entered, February 27, 1822, the west half of the northeast quarter of Section 3, Amanda Township, lying immediately south of his first entry. It is believed that Mr. McWhorter and wife, Margaret, located on his land

in Big Lick in 1823. In the first assessment made by Wilson Vance, lister of Findlay Township, in 1824, Henry McWhorter is assessed for two horses and ten head of cattle. It will be remembered that the whole of Hancock was then embraced in Findlay Township, and under the jurisdiction of Wood County. Mr. Vance was elected lister of Findlay Township April 5, 1824, and the same spring made a list of all horses and cattle in the township, over three years old. McWhorter was then living in Section 34, and was therefore the first settler in what is now Big Lick Township. He owned 320 acres of land in Big Lick and Amanda, which he subsequently sold to Samuel Sargent and Abraham Huff. These gentlemen made a joint division of this tract in the spring of 1829, Huff retaining eighty acres in each township, all of Sargent's land lying in Big Lick. In April, 1830, McWhorter brought suit against the purchasers to recover the face of a note of $237.83 and damages. He recovered the amount of his note, and damages were assessed at one cent. After selling his lands McWhorter removed from the county and is not very well remembered.

Samuel Sargent, a native of Hampshire County, Va., took up his abode in Crawford County (now Wyandot), Ohio, in 1825, and in 1827 settled on Limestone Ridge in Section 34, and was the second settler of Big Lick. Mr. Sargent voted at the first county election in April, 1828. He married Eliza, daughter of Judge Jacob Smith of Crawford (now Wyandot) County, Ohio, who bore him nine children, two of whom—Mrs. Adam Nigh and Mrs. David Chambers—are residents of this township. Mr. Sargent was a public-spirited man and resided upon the same farm till his death, which occurred November 6, 1849, in his fifty-first year. His widow who was born in Virginia, August 9, 1807, subsequently remarried and moved to Putnam County, but returned and died at her daughter's (Mrs. Chambers,) home, July 10, 1885, in her seventy-eighth year.

The family of John Long was the third to locate here, coming to the county in the fall of 1826. They first "squatted" in Amanda Township, thence removed to the south part of Big Lick, and subsequently settled on the west half of the northeast quarter of Section 21, which was entered by John Long, in November, 1829. John and Isabella Long were natives of Pennsylvania, and removed to Kentucky, where Robert was born in February, 1801. From Kentucky they came to Fairfield County, Ohio, and thence finally to this township. John and Robert voted at the first election for township officers in April, 1831. The parents died in this township many years ago, the father in 1835, and Robert and Jephtha are the only survivors of their nine children. Robert Long was in his twenty-sixth year when his father came to this county, and, in 1832, married Polly, daughter of Philip Essex, and she bore him four children, one of whom survives. Mrs. Long died in 1840, and he was afterward married to Mary Graham, a daughter of John Graham, who came to the township in 1833. Of this union seven children were born, five of whom are living. The mother died August 6, 1879. Mr. Long was a noted hunter during his more youthful days, and he loves yet to recount stories of the chase, when Indians roamed the forest, and the larger wild animals were more plentiful than domestic stock. Upon his farm was located the celebrated "Big Lick," from which the township derives its name. In a tree close by, a part of which is yet standing, Mr. Long constructed a seat where he comfortably waited the coming of the deer to enjoy their nightly feast, when he easily secured a choice venison.

During one of those silent watches a negro pitched his camp close to the lick, and, supposing that he too had come to secure a deer, Mr. Long concluded to try and scare him away. He began imitating the Indian whoop, and the negro at once fled through the forest toward Findlay, where he afterward died from the effects of his overexertion. Mr. Long did not expect such a serious result from his ruse to protect his game preserve, and very much regretted the poor fellow's death. He is now (July, 1885) in his eighty-fifth year, and shows the ravages time has made on his once rugged frame.

John Huff first located in the north part of Amanda Township in 1826, entering the west half of the southeast quarter of Section 3, May 2nd of that year; but in the fall of 1828 he removed to the west half of the southeast quarter of Section 17, Big Lick, which he did not enter, however, until 1829. Huff was a son-in-law of John Long, having married his daughter, Sibbie, in Fairfield County, Ohio, ere coming to Hancock. He voted at the first county election in April, 1828. They reared a large family, none of whom now reside in the county. In 1866, Mr. Huff sold his farm to John Moore, and went to Missouri, where both he and his wife died.

John Shoemaker, of Fairfield County, also a son-in-law of John Long, came to the county in 1826. He entered land in Amanda Township that year, and at once settled upon it. He voted at the first county election in April, 1828, and, December 15, 1828, entered the east half of the southeast quarter of Section 17, Big Lick Township, and removed there in February, 1829. His wife, Sarah, was the mother of a large family, Mrs. Henry Thomas being the only one of the number now living in Big Lick. Mrs. Shoemaker died upon the old homestead in 1879, Mr. Shoemaker in May, 1882, while on a visit to Indiana. He was always regarded as an upright, honest man, and a kind, hospitable neighbor.

In 1830 Philip Essex and family located in the township, and in September of that year entered land in Section 21. Both he and his wife, Hannah, are buried in Big Lick Township. Their daughter, Polly, married Robert Long, and died in 1840. None of their children are now residents of the county.

Andrew Poulson and family came here from Pickaway County in 1830. The eldest son, Levi, had come to the county two years before, as his name is found among the electors of Amanda Township in October, 1828. He was the second justice of Big Lick, and resided in the township till his death, as did also his father, Andrew, and brother, Cornelius, while his brother James removed to Indiana.

Amos Dunken settled in the south part of the township in 1830. He was the first justice of the peace of Big Lick, elected in April, 1831. After a residence here of several years he removed to Van Wert County, and there died.

Owen and Letitia Roberts and family settled in the southwest part of the township in 1832 or 1833. Both have been dead many years, but David, one of their children, is a substantial farmer of Big Lick. He resides in Section 29, and is regarded as one of the pioneers.

John and Sarah Graham, natives of Kentucky, and pioneers of Madison County, Ohio, came to the township in the fall of 1832, and built their cabin in the southwest quarter of Section 15. Here a son, George W., now a resident of Findlay, was born the following year. John was the son

of James and Mary Graham, who reared a family of nine children. The father died in Madison County, and in 1833 the widow, with her sons James and George W., joined the settlement in Big Lick Township, locating in Section 14. John Graham served twenty-four consecutive years as justice of the peace, and six as commissioner of Hancock County. He died in Findlay in the fall of 1885. George W. died upon the old homestead, and James in Minnesota, whither he had removed.

Baldsworth and Mary Baringer came about the same time as the Grahams. They were natives of Germany, and immigrated to Maryland, thence came west to Stark County, Ohio, in 1823 or 1824, and some eight years afterward settled in the southeast quarter of Section 2, Big Lick Township, entered May 22, 1833, where both resided till their death. They had a family of ten children. Joseph, the eldest son, now occupies the old homestead, and is one of the substantial farmers of the township.

In the fall of 1833 two pioneers came here together and put up cabins in the forest of Big Lick. These men were William Roller and his son-in-law, John Moore. Both were natives of Pennsylvania, and came to Hancock from Richland (now Ashland) County, Ohio. Mr. Roller erected his cabin on Section 15, and, in the spring of 1834, brought out his family, consisting of his wife, Nancy, and eight children. Soon after coming to Big Lick he was elected justice of the peace, and the General Assembly of 1836 appointed him associate judge of Hancock County, which position he held thirteen years. He entered 1,120 acres of land in the fall of 1833, most of which was inherited by his children; he and his wife died in this township. Of their children, Michael, the eldest son, resides on Section 7, and two of the daughters, Mrs. John Moore and Mrs. Moses McAnelly, are also living in the township. Mr. Roller won and retained many friends during his residence in the county.

John Moore built his cabin in the northwest quarter of Section 15, now the farm of his son-in-law, A. J. Moore. He married Agnes W. Roller in the fall of 1833, and removed to this township the following spring. Their first-born, Nancy, the wife of A. J. Moore, was rocked in a sugar trough, which Mr. Moore says was made by the Wyandot chief Big River. For more than half a century Mr. Moore and his wife have borne the trials and burdens of life together. They reared a family of ten children, all of whom are living in Hancock County, and seven in the vicinity of the old homestead, only one now remaining at home. Mr. Moore purchased his present farm of John Huff, in 1866, who removed to Missouri. He is one of the substantial pioneer farmers of Big Lick, where he settled over fifty years ago, comparatively penniless. Few men of his times can point to a more honorable life than this successful old settler, who is highly respected by young and old throughout this portion of the county.

Jesse Wiseley, a native of Fairfield County, Ohio, built his cabin on the southeast quarter of Section 7, in 1835. Mr. Wiseley brought with him his wife, Keziah, and son, John, and thus began life in the wilderness. He claims to have erected the first frame house in the township, which is yet standing. Mr. Wiseley has lived upon the same farm since coming to the county.

Henry and Jane Thomas, natives of Ireland, immigrated to Virginia, in 1816, thence removed to Pennsylvania, and about 1827, to Wayne County, Ohio. In October, 1833, Mr. Thomas entered 320 acres of land in the



Thomas McKinnis



north part of Big Lick in Sections 5 and 9, upon which they located in 1835. They reared a large family, two sons, Henry and Samuel L. being still residents of the township, where the parents spent the balance of their lives.

Moses McAnelly was one of the most prominent citizens of Hancock County up to his death in 1852. He married Mary, daughter of William Roller, and in 1836–37 settled in the northeast quarter of Section 17. Mr. McAnelly possessed a good education and considerable force of character, and soon took a leading place in public affairs. He served four successive terms as justice of the peace, and in 1839 was elected to the Legislature and re-elected in 1840, and elected to the State Senate in 1842, serving with honor in each body. Mr. McAnelly was a pioneer school teacher and a local politician of considerable influence, and a man of upright character and unswerving integrity. His widow and some of the children are residing upon the old homestead in Big Lick.

Among other settlers of this period were John P. Ebersole, Jacob Barger, William and Henry Deibly, Charles Henderson, James Wright, Robert L. Martin, William Wilson, Uriah E. Drake, Jackson Stall, Leonard Baumgartner, Samuel B., Silas, William K. and Abner Leonard, William Brown, John Sheridan, John A. Metzger, James Ruckman and Richard Bayliss, all of whom came between 1835 and 1838. Some of these are long since dead, while others are yet residing in the township, and among its worthy citizens.

Justices of the Peace.—The following citizens have filled the office of justice in Big Lick Township, some of them serving several terms: Amos Dunken, Levi Poulson, William Roller, James Wright, Robert L. Martin, William Wilson, Leonard Baumgartner, Moses McAnelly, Charles Henderson, John Graham, Jeremiah Ricketts, James Ruckman, Frederick Roamer, J. P. Edwards, Abraham Mumma, William K. Leonard, George W. Graham, J. W. Gibson, John Newhouse, George W. Brown, David E. Neely, Andrew J. Moore and A. M. Jacobs.

Schools.—Five years after the organization of the township, the first log schoolhouse was erected in Section 14, on the farm of George W. Graham, Sr. Here most of the school youth were taught for a few years. The Rollers, Moores, Martins, Hendersons, Grahams, Wilsons, Leonards and others attended this school. The second school building, also a log structure, was erected in Section 8, on the land now owned by J. D. Ewing. The Thomases, Wiseleys, McAnellys and other families of the neighborhood sent children to this school. Among the first teachers of Big Lick, we find the names of Moses McAnelly, Susan Roller, Robert L. Martin and William K. Leonard. With the growth in population the number of schoolhouses also increased, and better buildings began to make their appearance, until to-day the township contains ten good schoolhouses, which are in full operation throughout the school year.

Churches.—The Methodist Episcopal denomination organized a class at the house of Leonard Baumgartner, in Section 29, as early as 1837–38. The Robertses, Baumgartners and Bakers were perhaps its principal members, and Rev. Thomas Thompson was the minister who accomplished the good work. Some of its members lived in Marion Township, and after several years a frame building was put up on the farm of Jacob Baker in Section 24 of that subdivision. In the course of time the society became extinct, and

the church was sold to Mr. Corbin, who removed it to his farm in this township, where it has since done service as an outbuilding. The Methodists also organized a society quite early in the old log schoolhouse in the eastern part of the township, to which some of the Poulsons, Grahams, Sheridans and Hendersons belonged. Soon after 1840 they erected a log building on Section 13, which served the congregation until their present frame structure was built, in the northeast corner of Section 23, southwest of the old site. The Methodist Episcopal denomination has now two churches in the township, where regular services are held.

Enon Valley Presbyterian Church was organized November 13, 1841, with the following membership: Robert Leonard, Francis Leonard, Richard Bayliss, Nancy Bayliss, William Moore, Anna Moore, John Moffitt, James Thomas, Mary Ann Thomas, Jane Thomas, Elizabeth Leonard and Silas Leonard. Richard Bayliss, John Moffitt and Robert Leonard were chosen elders of the new society, and the pastor of the Findlay church attended this charge at intervals. Ground for a church and cemetery were donated to the society by Jacob Weamer. In 1844 work was commenced toward the erection of a hewed-log building farther west than the site given by Weamer on Section 4, to which the logs were afterward removed. The structure was erected early in 1845, and the first services held therein in May of that year. This old church served the congregation for several years, and was then replaced by the present frame.

Big Lick also contains two United Brethren, two Evangelical, one Christian Union and one German Baptist Church, and is therefore well supplied with houses of worship. Six different denominations teach the doctrines of their respective sects, and the weary wayfarer may here take his choice of these several roads to salvation.

Villages and Postoffices.—The first attempt to start a village in Big Lick was made September 26, 1836, when a town called Freedom was laid out by Uriah E. Drake, on the east half of the southwest quarter of Section 19; but no lots were sold or buildings erected.

In December, 1849, George and Peter Wyant and Henry M. Grose laid out West Independence. It contained sixty lots on the east half of the northeast quarter of Section 2. A few lots were sold and some buildings erected, and, because of its location on the road from Findlay to Tiffin, the proprietors hoped that a prosperous village might spring up. In this, however, they were disappointed, as it has never made much progress, and yet remains a small country hamlet. The business of West Independence consists of two small grocery stores, a hotel, a shoe shop, a saw-mill, a blacksmith and wagon shop, and two physicians. The United Brethren and Evangelical denominations have each a church here, and it also contains a good schoolhouse. A neat little cemetery lies immediately west of the village. In 1856 a postoffice was established in West Independence, which has been successively filled by Frederick Roamer, J. L. Kenower, Jacob Ruth, John Peters, William Blinn, A. J. Maurer and J. W. Wynkoop. Big Lick Lodge No. 744, I. O. O. F., was organized in the village October 7, 1885, with the following charter members: J. G. Wiseman, J. W. Wynkoop, A. J. Maurer, J. W. Gibson, R. R. Wiseman, H. M. Wiseman, George Ruch, A. Gleckner, J. M. Green, William Green, S. S. Ward, Fremont Gibson, S. E. Crawford, N. C. Miller and A. J. Thomas. The society has fitted up a lodge-room, where they hold their meetings regularly.

A postoffice named "Big Lick" was established at the house of A. J. Moore, on Section 22, in 1852. It continued in operation until 1864, and Mr. Moore was postmaster during its existence. The office was a great accommodation to that part of the township, and never cost the Government one cent to establish and keep in operation.

CHAPTER XIII.

BLANCHARD TOWNSHIP.

ITS HISTORIC NAME—ERECTION, AREA, LOCATION AND POPULATION BY DECADES—STREAMS AND RUNS—DESTRUCTION OF THE TIMBER—SOIL AND TOPOGRAPHY—TILE FACTORY AND WHAT IT HAS ACCOMPLISHED—PIONEERS—FIRST DEATHS AND MARRIAGE—SAMUEL EDWARDS, THE NOTED HUNTER AND SUBSEQUENT AUTHOR—JUSTICES—CHURCHES—EDUCATION—VILLAGES—OAK RIDGE POSTOFFICE—CEMETERIES.

THIS subdivision was named Blanchard at the suggestion of Richard Dukes, one of its pioneers, in honor of the stream which crosses it from east to west. Col. John Johnston, for about half a century an Indian agent, says, in Howe's "Historical Collections," the Shawnees called this stream *Shapo-qua-te sepe*, or "Tailor's River," while by the Wyandots it was called *Queghtu-wa*, or "claws in the water." According to Col. Johnston, a Frenchman, named Blanchard, a tailor by trade, married a Shawnee squaw and lived upon the river, before the occupation of the country by the whites, and the real meaning of its Shawnee name is "one who sewed garments." When the whites took possession of Ohio the surveyors named the stream Blanchard's Fork of the Auglaize, in memory of this Frenchman, and so it has since remained. Thus Blanchard Township has an historic name, one that goes back into the fading traditions of the past.

It was erected March 7, 1831, from territory previously included in Liberty Township, and has always embraced the full Congressional Township 1 north, Range 9, or 23,040 acres. March 4, 1834, Township 2 north, Range 9, was attached to Blanchard for judicial purposes, but March 2, 1835, it was erected into a new township named Pleasant, leaving Blanchard as originally formed. It lies in the western range of townships, with Pleasant Township on the north, Liberty on the east, Union on the south and Putnam County on the west. In 1840 Blanchard had a population of 629; 1850, 1,051; 1860, 1,161; 1870, 1,304, and 1880, 1,286.

This is one of the best watered portions of Hancock County. The Blanchard River enters the township in the northeast corner of Section 13, and winding in a southwest course across the township strikes the Putnam County line near the northwest corner of the southwest quarter of Section 19. It is here a very crooked stream, and in its marked sinuosity much resembles a huge snake. Though often becoming very low during dry weather, it sometimes leaps its banks and spreads over the adjacent lands. There is always sufficient water in its bed, even in the driest season, for stock purposes. Several small runs drain the north part of Blanchard into the river,

while the main branch of Pickens Run heads on Section 3, whence it takes a northwest course into Pleasant. From the south the Blanchard is fed by two or three tributaries, Ottawa Creek being the most important. The headwaters of this stream are located in Van Buren Township, and consist of two main forks, which unite on Section 36, Union Township; thence passing in a general northerly direction through Union and the southeastern portion of this township discharges its waters into the Blanchard in the southwest corner of Section 14. These streams and runs have been of great utility to the inhabitants of Blanchard, furnishing good drainage facilities and an abundant water supply. In early days fish were very plentiful in the Blanchard and Ottawa Creek.

When the first settlers built their cabins along the Blanchard a heavy forest covered the land. But the clearing up process, as a matter of stern necessity, went on so ruthlessly that very little of the most valuable woods, such as walnut and poplar, now remain. What was not cut down and burned, or converted into rails and lumber, has nearly all been sold long ago to dealers and manufacturers. But the fertility of the lands has largely repaid their owners for the mistake made in the destruction of the valuable timber which grew thereon, as those gigantic trees were evidences of the strength of the virgin soil. Along each side of the Blanchard we find a deep sandy vegetable loam that cannot be excelled in the production of corn. South of the river, except on Ottawa Creek, where the lands are somewhat diversified, the country is generally very level and requires considerable ditching, but the soil is also a vegetable loam with here and there a mixture of clay and sand, which properly drained is very rich and productive. Upon reaching the rolling uplands north of the Blanchard a strong clay soil predominates, though mixed in places with sandy deposits, the soil on the flatter lands being locally termed a muck. A sand ridge crosses the southeast corner of the township, along which the lands are highly prized. Benton lies upon this ridge. West of Benton to the county line the country is exceedingly level, and much of it was originally very wet. Prudent ditching and tiling, however, soon render these lands among the most valuable in the county.

There is perhaps no enterprise in the township that has done so much toward its prosperity as the tile factory established some twelve or fifteen years ago by Lewis Dukes, Sr., on his farm in Section 10. He subsequently sold the ground and buildings, and this factory has ever since supplied the whole surrounding country with draining tile. The greater portion of the flat lands has been brought under a high state of cultivation by a plentiful use of the tile made in this factory, and thus the wealth of the township has been annually increased and multiplied. No portion of Hancock County can compare in improvements with the Dukes, Davis and Moffitt settlement, and we very much doubt that it is excelled by any country neighborhood in Ohio. The productiveness of the lands here is largely due to the judicious use of tiles, and this factory has therefore been of inestimable value to the farmers of Blanchard Township.

Pioneers.—The first settlers of Blanchard came principally from the older counties of Ohio, though most of the heads of families were natives of other States or countries. In the spring of 1823 John Hunter and Benjamin Chandler came from Fairfield County, Ohio, and built their cabins in the southwest quarter of Section 15. Hunter's stood on the south bank of

the Blanchard, and Chandler's immediately north of the former and on the same side of the river. They were brothers-in-law, and about 60 acres of land were here entered by Hunter in September, 1825. At the first election held in Findlay Township, July 1, 1823, Chandler was one of the judges of election; and at the second election, April 5, 1824, Hunter was elected one of the two fence viewers of Findlay Township. On the first tax levy, taken by Wilson Vance in 1824, Hunter is assessed with one horse and eight head of cattle. In April, 1831, they sold out to George Shaw and Selden Blodget, and removed to Michigan. They were the first settlers to locate in this township, but left the county at such an early day that few remember them only by tradition, though their names are frequently met with in the early records.

George Shaw was the next settler of Blanchard, locating in Section 16, south of the river, in the spring of 1827. The following autumn he returned to Stark County, Ohio, and brought out his wife, Dorcas, and eight children. He could not then enter or buy the site of his settlement, as that section was school land, but he lived there till April, 1831, when he purchased John Hunter's improvement of about 42 acres in Section 15. When the school lands were sold, in 1837, he bought 200 acres on Section 16, and thus became the owner of his first settlement. Two of his children died, one in 1828 and the other in 1829, which were the first deaths in the township. Mr. Shaw voted at the first county election in April, 1828. In 1839 he was elected commissioner, and re-elected to the same office. He died February 1, 1861, in his seventy-eighth year, his widow surviving him till August 16, 1875, and dying at McComb, in the eighty-fourth year of her age. Mrs. William Shafer, of this township, is the only one of their four surviving children residing in the county.

Lewis Dukes, Sr., came to the township in the fall of 1827. He was born in Franklin County, Ohio, in 1811, and his parents, John and Mary Dukes, were natives of Virginia. His father died when Lewis was quite small, and the widow married William Powell, who, with his wife and two children, Asa and William H., and also Dillard R. Dukes, accompanied Lewis from Franklin County, Ohio, to the Blanchard. Mr. Powell returned on business to Franklin County the same fall, and there died. In the spring of 1828 the widow and her two younger children went back to Franklin County, and remained there several years before again coming to Hancock; but Lewis Dukes has been a resident of the county since first settling here, more than fifty-eight years ago, and is to-day the oldest settler in the township. In a few years he had saved enough from his daily labor to enter his first piece of land, and from time to time added thereto until he became one of the largest land owners in the township. In 1838 he married Miss Laura W. Bean, who died in 1874. His second wife was Mrs. Harriet Alward, daughter of James Caton, a pioneer of Liberty Township, who now watches over his household. Early in life he joined the Methodist Episcopal Church, and is still a consistent adherent of that faith. In his younger days he was noted for his vigorous, forcible character, economical habits and untiring industry, which enabled him to amass a respectable fortune from agricultural pursuits. Quiet and unassuming in his every-day life, he is passing his declining years on a finely improved farm, surrounded by the many comforts that wealth enables its possessors to enjoy.

In November, 1828, Richard and John Dukes joined the settlement.

Both were natives of Virginia, and elder brothers of Lewis, Sr. Richard was married in Franklin County, Ohio, to Mary Blue, who had borne him one son, Lewis, ere the family settled north of the Blanchard in Section 15, where thirteen children were afterward born, nine of whom grew to maturity. Mrs. Dukes died on the old homestead. Mr. Dukes was subsequently married twice, but no children were born to these two unions. He died in Findlay in 1876, whither he removed from the old farm, April 1, 1873. Lewis, Jr., and Eli, of Blanchard Township, and W. R., of McComb, are the only members of his family living in this county. Lewis, Jr., is regarded as the most successful farmer that Hancock County has ever possessed. He was an infant when his parents came to the Blanchard, and, excepting his uncle Lewis, is the oldest resident of the township. John Dukes was a single man when he came here, but the same fall he was married to Hannah Howchings, by Rev. Thomas Thompson, this being the first marriage in the settlement. She died April 15, 1829, which was the first death of a grown person in this part of the county. He was afterward thrice married, his second wife, Jane, dying in 1841, and his third wife, Mary, in 1862. After clearing up a farm in Section 15, north of the river, and spending the greater part of his life in this township, he sold his property, and in his old age removed, with his fourth wife, to Wood County, where he passed the few remaining years of his earthly existence, leaving no descendants to perpetuate his name and memory.

Thomas and Adaline Groves also settled north of the Blanchard in the fall of 1828. Mr. Groves was a native of Rockingham County, Va., whence he removed to Pickaway County, Ohio, where he married Adaline Choate, a native of Vermont, who was the mother of two children when her husband came from Pickaway County and took up his abode on Section 14, Blanchard Township. Ten children were born after coming, making a family of six sons and six daughters, eight of whom survive, three sons living in Hancock County. Mrs. Groves died upon the old homestead December 21, 1875, in her seventy-fifth year, and here too her venerable husband passed away July 31, 1881, in the eighty-fourth year of his age.

In the fall of 1828 Jeremiah Colclo, with his mother and son, William M., came from the central part of the State and settled north of the Blanchard, on Section 17. After building a cabin and commencing an improvement, Mr. Colclo went back for his wife and balance of his family, whom he brought out in the spring of 1829. He entered a large tract of land, and was a very hard-working, industrious man. The parents died on the home farm; William M. went to Indiana, and the other children also died or removed from the county. The family are kindly remembered in the neighborhood where they settled and lived.

In the spring of 1829 George Epley and Joseph Bowen, brothers-in-law, came from Ross County, Ohio, and located on land in Section 18, entered by Henry Epley in 1827. They were sent out by the latter to make an improvement on his land, and prepare for his coming. Both resided here for many years, Epley dying in the township, but we were unable to learn whether Bowen died here or removed from the county.

The year 1830 brought into the township Thomas Moffitt, Mordecai, Enoch and Eli Haddox, Henry Epley and William Downing, all of whom settled permanently at that time. Thomas Moffitt and family came from Ross County, Ohio, in the spring of the year, and located in Section 17,

north of the Blanchard. In 1831 he was elected justice of the peace, being the first citizen of Blanchard Township who filled that office. He was again elected in 1841, and re-elected in 1844. After residing here till about 1850 he sold out to his brothers, William and John, and went to Iowa. The Haddox brothers were natives of Virginia, and first settled in Franklin County, Ohio, whence they removed to Section 17, this township. Their mother, Hannah, came with them and died in 1835. Mordecai and Margaret Haddox reared a family of five children. Mrs. Haddox was a native of Germany, and died in 1855, Mr. Haddox surviving her till 1879. John, their eldest son, resides in Section 18, on a part of the old farm. Enoch and his wife, Anna M., also died here, the latter in 1856 and the former in 1863. Eli was a single man, and after his marriage moved into Putnam County. Henry Epley was from Ross County, Ohio, and in 1827 entered the east half of the southeast quarter of Section 18, upon which his brother, George, settled in 1829, and he in 1830. Henry resided on the Blanchard till his death in 1846, his widow, Elizabeth, surviving him thirty years and dying in 1876. William Downing was born in Maryland in 1797, his parents removing to Pike County, Ohio, where he grew to manhood. He there enlisted and served in the war of 1812, being then but a boy of sixteen. In 1830, with his wife, Elizabeth, he came to this township, and built his cabin in the southwest quarter of Section 12, where his wife died in 1851. He was again married, and in 1863 was laid beside his first wife in the Dukes Cemetery. The old homestead is still occupied by his widow.

Selden Blodget came from the Tymochtee as early as 1827, and voted at the first county election in April, 1828. In April, 1831, he bought of John Hunter about twenty acres of land in Section 15, Blanchard Township, upon which he located with his family of two sons and one daughter. In July, 1832, he gave a power of attorney to Squire Carlin and Charles McKinnis to dispose of his land, and removed to Michigan. His first wife died on the Tymochtee, and he married Mrs. Lydia Davis, of Franklin County, but they separated ere his removal to Hancock. After he went to Michigan, his wife, with the children of her first marriage, settled on the Blanchard, where she resided till her death in 1877.

Solomon Foglesong, William and John Mires, and Richard and John L. Carson all settled in the southeast corner of the township in 1831. Mr. Foglesong entered the southwest quarter of Section 36, April 23, 1831, and with his wife, Catherine, at once settled upon it, erecting his cabin on the east bank of Ottawa Creek. Here he resided for more than half a century. His wife died February 20, 1872, and he survived her till January 9, 1883, leaving no descendants to perpetuate his name. William and John Mires located on the east half of the northwest quarter of Section 35 in the summer of 1831. In November, 1835, William laid out the village of Benton, and in June, 1836, they sold their land to David M. Baldwin, afterward purchasing land southwest of Benton in Union Township, but after some years they again disposed of their property, and went West. The Carsons came from Franklin County, Ohio, in the fall of 1831, and also located on Section 35. In 1834 John L. was elected county commissioner and justice of the peace in 1836. Dick Carson was known as the champion fighter of the township. He was a large muscular man, and, though for the times rather peaceably inclined, was ever ready to resent an insult or accept a challenge to a "rough-and-tumble" encounter. An old settler in speaking

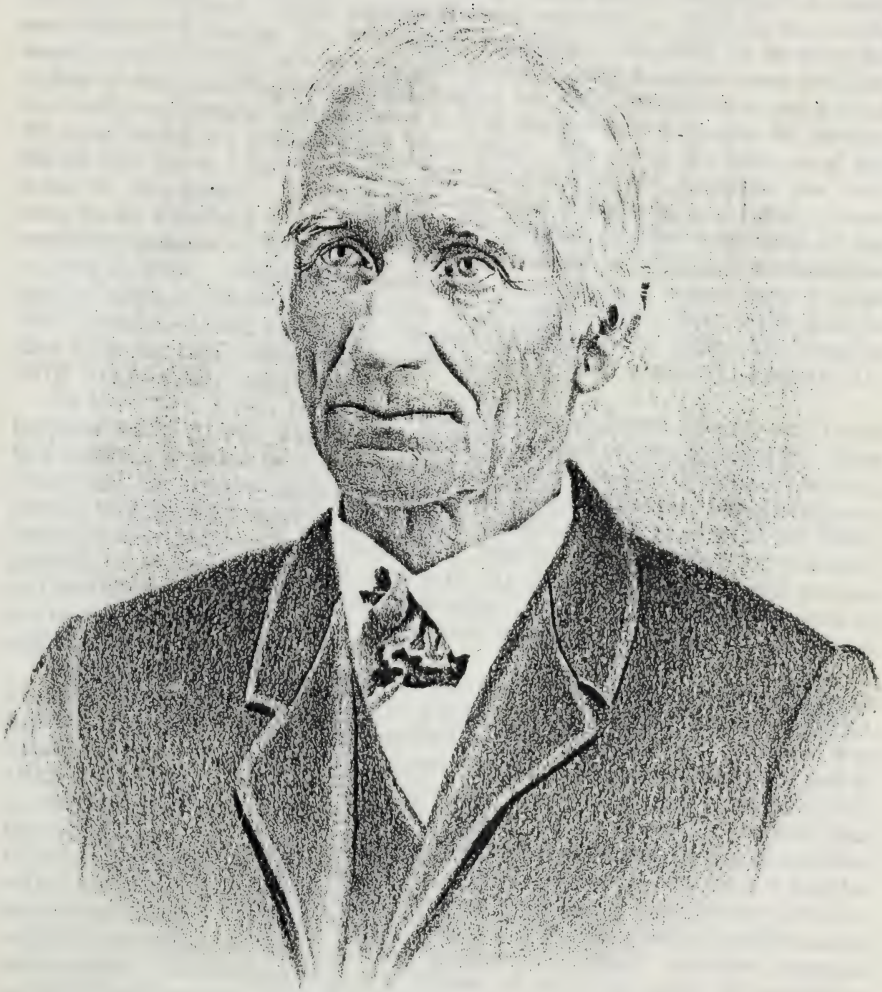
of him to the writer said, "Dick, when a little full, would fight at the drop of a hat, and never found his match in this county." Fighting was not then frowned upon as it is to-day, in fact such pleasures (?) were rather encouraged, and thus became a part of the festivities at nearly every public gathering. Many years ago the Carsons removed with their families to the West.

John Downing came here in the spring of 1832, from Pike County, Ohio, cleared a small patch on Section 13, south of the river, and put in a crop. The following autumn he brought out his family, consisting of his wife and eight children; the sons being David, George, William, Isaac and John. One son, Timothy, was born on the Blanchard after settlement. In 1849 George and William went to California, and in 1850 David followed them, but after a few years spent in the gold regions, all returned to this county. About twenty-five years ago William removed to Kansas, whither he was soon afterward followed by his father and brothers, Isaac and Timothy. George subsequently went to Iowa, and David, now a resident of Findlay, is the only one of John Downing's children living in Hancock County.

David Millham and Nimrod Smith both located on Section 14, in 1832. The former was an Englishman, who in the spring of 1832 came from one of the older settled counties of Ohio, made a small clearing, put in a crop and built a cabin north of the Blanchard. The following autumn he brought his family. His house soon became known as the most filthy in the whole settlement, and none of the neighbors cared to visit the Millhams. In 1851 he assisted in laying out Lewisville, and subsequently moved with his family to Indiana. Nimrod and Polly Smith settled south of the river, but in 1835 sold his land to John Spreaker, and moved to a farm near the home of Thomas Moffitt, where he accidentally shot himself some years after.

John C. Wickham and family came from Ross County, Ohio, to Findlay, in 1827, and he taught the second school in that town. He was clerk of the first county election held in April, 1828 (at which he and his son Minor T. voted), and also the second postmaster of Findlay. In October, 1828, he was elected sheriff of Hancock County and served one term. In 1832 his son William removed from Findlay to Section 13, Blanchard Township, and in 1833 the parents and son, Minor T., also settled on the same section. Mr. Wickham taught the second school in the township and, in 1835, was elected as its second justice of the peace. He died soon afterward while on a business trip to Wayne County, Ohio, but some of his decendants yet reside in the county.

In October, 1829, Philip Powell, a native of Pennsylvania, and a previous settler of Fairfield County, Ohio, came to Hancock County, and entered two quarters of land on Ottawa Creek, lying in Section 35, Blanchard Township, and Section 2, Union. The following year, with his sons, William and Jacob, he again visited this county and began an improvement on his land, immediately east of the site of Benton. For the succeeding three years the Powells continued to visit and clear up their lands preparatory to settling permanently thereon, and in 1830-31-32 and 33 the father entered 560 acres more in this township in Sections 25, 26, and 35. In 1834 William, with his young wife, took up his residence in Section 35, where he has ever since resided. Jacob afterward married, and settled in Section 25, where he died April 20, 1870. John and Daniel did not settle here for several years after William and Jacob, and both still reside upon their farms



Samuel Keel



southeast of Benton, Daniel's home being across the line in Union Township. All of the sons were born and reared in Fairfield County, Ohio, and the parents resided there till death.

Michael Fishel, John Knepper and Owen Hughes all settled near the site of Benton in 1833–34 and 35. The Fishel family located in Liberty Township in March, 1828, whence Michael removed in 1833, to the southeast quarter of Section 34, Blanchard Township. In 1876 he took up his residence in McComb, where he is now living. John Knepper was a brother-in-law of Solomon Foglesong, and, August 16, 1831, entered the east half of the northwest quarter and the west half of the northeast quarter of Section 36, upon which he settled three years after. He spent the balance of his life on this farm. Two sons and one daughter of Mr. Knepper are residents of Blanchard. Owen Hughes and wife, Elizabeth, and family, came here from Fairfield County, Ohio, and located on the west half of the southwest quarter of Section 35, which he entered in 1831 and settled upon in 1834 or 1835. Mr. Hughes was twice married and reared quite a large family, most of whom are residents of Hancock. His first wife died in 1856, and his second, whose name was also Elizabeth, in 1868. Mr. Hughes died upon his farm, where he had lived nearly half a century, January 11, 1879, in his eighty-fourth year.

In 1834 Mrs. Lydia Davis *nee* Dukes (sister of Lewis Dukes, Sr.), with her sons John, Alfred, James and Newton, settled on the Blanchard. Her first husband's name was Ishmael Davis, who died in Franklin County, Ohio, and the widow afterward married Selden Blodget, but they soon parted, and Blodget came to this county in 1827, where he resided till 1832, leaving before the coming of the Davis family. Alfred has been the most prosperous of any of the sons, and is to-day one of the largest land owners and wealthiest farmers in Hancock County. Newton is also a resident of the township, and the mother died here January 16, 1877, in the eighty-eighth year of her age.

Samuel Edwards settled north of the river in the Moffitt neighborhood, in January, 1834. He was a native of Pennsylvania, but was married in Pickaway County, Ohio, whence he removed to Hancock County. Edwards was known far and wide as the most expert hunter in northwestern Ohio, and in 1850 sold out and moved to Henry County, where game was more plentiful. In 1880 he published in book form the history of his life. He claimed that Robert Bonner of the *New York Ledger* offered him $1,000 for his sketch, but Edwards regarded the amount as too small, believing he had a fortune within his grasp. Like many other authors poor Sam's high hopes were destined to be blasted. His little book "fell flat" upon the reading public, had a very limited sale, and his expected "mountain of gold" dwindled away to nothingness. Edwards sold a few copies of his book to his old neighbors on the Blanchard, who took it "for the sake of auld lang syne."

Two other settlers of 1834 were Seymour Hastings and John Mathews. The former located in Section 14, south of the Blanchard; in June, 1836, he sold his farm to William Smeltzer, and moved to Section 19, where he resided till death. Mathews came from Pike County, Ohio, and settled north of the river. It is said that he never owned any land here, and died in the township.

In the fall of 1835 Charles, William and John Moffitt, Joel Pendleton, John Spreaker and Thomas Downing came into the township. The Moffitt

brothers, with their mother, Sarah, located south of the Blanchard on a part of their brother Thomas' land, who had preceded them several years. Charles married a sister of Alfred Davis and died in Union Township. William and John also married here, bought out Thomas and became quite wealthy. The former died June 30, 1884, but John is still one of the active farmers of Blanchard. Three of William's sons reside in the township. Joel Pendleton settled in Section 23, but after living here nearly four years sold out and moved into Findlay Township, were he is yet living. Mr. Pendleton was surveyor of Hancock County for nearly thirty-five years, and is a very intelligent man. John Spreaker was a Pennsylvanian, who bought the farm of Nimrod Smith in Section 14, south of the river. After living here about twenty years he went to Illinois. Thomas Downing was a brother of William, who came in 1830. He, too, removed to Illinois.

A large number of settlers came to the township in 1835–36 among whom were Alpheus Edwards, Joseph Horner, David Braucht, David M. Baldwin, William Smeltzer, Phineas Mapes, Stephen Smith and James McClish. Mr. Edwards was born in Connecticut in 1808, immigrated to Fairfield County, Ohio, in 1819, there married Leah Shriner, and in March, 1835, with his wife and four children, settled on the east half of the northwest quarter of Section 32, where he has ever since resided. He reared nine children, eight of whom are living. His wife died in 1879, and perhaps before this meets the reader's eye he, too, shall have passed away, as he is now quite old and feeble. Joseph Horner and family came the same time as Mr. Edwards and settled in Section 31, where he lived until his removal to Indiana a few years ago. David Braucht and family were from Stark County, Ohio. He entered a large tract of land south of the Blanchard, May 17, 1834, and, doubtless, settled in Section 13, the following year. Both he and his wife died on the old homestead, and Mrs. L. C. Groves is the only one of their children now living in the county. David M. Baldwin, of Fairfield County, Ohio, purchased the farm of John and William Mires, in Section 35, June 13, 1836, and, with his wife, Sarah, and family, at once took possession. Mr. Baldwin afterward opened a tavern, which he carried on for many years. He died on his farm near Benton, February 20, 1875, and his widow still occupies the old home, while five sons and three daughters reside in the neighborhood. William Smeltzer was a Pennsylvanian, who had lived in the county previous to his purchase, in June, 1836, of Seymour Hastings' farm, in Section 14, where he resided until his death. Phineas Mapes located in Section 19, and here both he and his wife died. Stephen Smith settled in the southeast quarter of section 28, whence he moved into Union Township, and there spent the balance of his life.

James McClish, a native of Maryland, married Patience Bishop, of New Jersey. She bore him eleven children, ten of whom grew to maturity. He settled on the farm now owned by his son N. B., where he died a few days after reaching his destination. While the headstone over his grave says he died October 6, 1835, the family now claim that his death occurred in 1836, and that the date on the stone is incorrect. Seven children came with the parents to this township, but N. B. is the only one now living here, the mother having died January 21, 1867, in her eighty-first year.

Of other settlers, Peter Foltz and Jacob Engle are kindly remembered. Mr. Foltz and his wife, Elizabeth, came from Fairfield County, Ohio, in 1836, and settled on Ottawa Creek in Section 25, where both died. Mrs. Foltz

died August 9, 1850, and he was again married, and reared a large family by his second wife. On the 11th of March, 1874, he, too, passed away and was laid beside his first wife in a little private cemetery southeast of Benton, on the west bank of Ottawa Creek. Several of his children are residents of the county. Jacob Engle was a German, who came here from Somerset County, Penn., about 1837, and settled near the site of Benton, where he died in 1859, his family afterward removing to Iowa. Others might be mentioned who came into Blanchard Township about this period, among whom were John M. Radebaugh, Charles Frost and Samuel Rudesill; but the names of the real pioneers have been given, the only object in view.

Justices.—Upon the organization of the township in 1831, Thomas Moffitt was elected justice of the peace, and his successors have been John C. Wickham, John L. Carson, John M. Radebaugh, Charles Frost, Henry Cook, Eli Dunning, John Boylan, William H. Conine, Mathew E. Hopkins, Philip Ballard, W. H. Kilpatrick, George Downing, Robert Marshall, John Wortman, Ephraim Mathias, Hiram W. Hughes, Joseph Thompson, W. P. Dukes, Amos Wittemeyer, John Bergman, John C. Wickham, John Wortman, Samuel G. Robinson and Amos Wittemeyer.

Churches.—The Methodist Episcopals organized the first society in the township, at the house of John Dukes, as early as 1831. Rev. Thomas Thompson was the minister present, and Richard Dukes and wife, John Dukes and wife, Thomas Moffitt and wife, and Mrs. William Downing, were about all that took an active interest in the organization. Several other Methodist families came to the township soon afterward, some of whom joined the class. Among these were William Wickham and wife, Mrs. William Powell, Mrs. David Millham, Mrs. John Mathews and Mrs. James McClish. Services were first held at the houses of John Dukes, Richard Dukes and Thomas Moffitt. About 1836 or 1837 a hewed-log building was erected on the farm of Richard Dukes, which is yet standing. With the growth of the society, this structure became too small and primitive, and a frame building was put up farther west. This served the congregation until the erection of the present brick church in 1880. In 1871 the Methodists built another church at Benton, and it, too, is a brick building. The United Brethren and Evangelical denominations held meetings and organized societies quite early in this part of the county. The former has three churches in Blanchard; one in Section 36, which was the first church built in the vicinity of Benton; one in Section 32, and one in Section 18, north of the river. This denomination has perhaps the most numerous following in the township. The Evangelical Association erected its present church in 1858–59, one-half mile west of Benton, in Section 34, but in 1868 it was moved into the village and is still used by the society.

Education.—In 1832 a school was taught in one end of John Dukes' cabin by Amanda Kilpatrick. The Dukeses, Shaws, Groves and Millhams were the pupils. The next year a small log schoolhouse was built on the farm of Thomas Groves in Section 14, which was opened and taught by John C. Wickham in the winter of 1833–34. It was attended by the Shaws, Dukeses, Groves, Downings, Millhams, Wickhams, Hastings and others who then lived in the township. Frederick Ballard was the next teacher, and then came Joel Pendleton and Mr. Choate. Another early school was taught in a cabin on the farm of Enoch Haddox, and attended by the Haddoxes, Epleys and others of that vicinity. As the country settled up the little log

schoolhouse made its appearance in other sections of the township until all were supplied. Blanchard can now boast of ten schoolhouses, wherein school is held during the full legal year.

Villages.—Benton was laid out November 5, 1835, on the east half of the northwest quarter of Section 35, by William Mires, and named in honor of Hon. Thomas Benton, the great Democratic statesman of Missouri. It originally contained thirty-six lots, but several additions have since been laid out. Benton lies about nine miles southwest of Findlay, on the same ridge which here crosses the county, and has always been a small country town with a limited local business. In 1840 a postoffice, named Benton Ridge, was established here, with David M. Baldwin as postmaster. His successors have been William Miller, Philip Ballard, Isaac Sperow, Michael Merchant, David M. Baldwin, T. J. Saunders, J. G. Saunders, J. H. Saunders, J. G. Saunders, H. W. Hughes, John C. Wickham, T. J. Saunders and R. N. Cherry. In March, 1875, the village was incorporated for special purposes, and has since had two mayors: R. S. Palmer and Amos Wittemeyer. Its present business interests consist of one dry goods and grocery store, a dry goods, grocery and hardware store, a grocery store, a druggist, a steam grist-mill, a steam saw-mill, two general blacksmith shops, one of which manufactures plows, a cabinet-maker and undertaker, a shoe shop, a saloon, a good hotel and one physician. Benton Lodge, No. 418, F. & A. M., was instituted October 21, 1868, with twenty-one charter members. This lodge has recently been removed to Rawson. The Methodist Episcopals and Evangelical Association have each a church in the village, and there is also a schoolhouse located here. In 1880 the town had a population of 179, and now claims over 200, which indicates a slight growth.

Lewisville was laid out by William H. Powell, David Millham and Michael Shearer, in April, 1851, on the north part of the northeast quarter of Section 14, and the southeast quarter of Section 11. A general country store was opened, a schoolhouse built, and three or four residences erected, but that is as far as its growth ever reached. The store was carried on by John Boylan for a few years, and then abandoned, and the village site was gradually returned to the uses of agriculture.

Oak Ridge Postoffice was established in 1848 at the house of William Downing, with Mr. Downing as postmaster. The office has always been in the same neighborhood, and Mr. Downing's successors have been as follows: Robert Marshall, Daniel Morris, Mrs. William Downing, Rezin Cook, David Downing, Eli Dukes, L. C. Groves and Thomas McKinnis. Oak Ridge, though of little importance, has nevertheless been a great accommodation to the people in this section of the county, and is therefore regarded with much favor.

Cemeteries.—The Dukes Cemetery north of the Blanchard is the oldest in the township, as two of George Shaw's children were interred there in 1828 and 1829, and also the wife of John Dukes in the latter year. George Shaw, Richard Dukes, Mordecai and Enoch Haddox, Henry Epley, William Downing, William Moffitt and James McClish, with their wives, also Mrs. Lydia Davis and many other pioneers are buried in this graveyard. It is located on a sand hill in Sections 15 and 16, lying partly in both, is decorated with evergreens, and contains quite a number of nice monuments. The Benton Ridge Cemetery is also a neat little ground, and was opened at an early day. It lies immediately west of that village on the Sand Ridge,

and is naturally well adapted for a cemetery. Here Thomas Groves, Jacob Powell, Owen Hughes, David M. Baldwin, Jacob Engle and others of the pioneer fathers were laid to rest. The Braucht Cemetery, in Section 13, is quite an early public burial place, not at present much used.

CHAPTER XIV.

CASS TOWNSHIP.

ERECTION, ORGANIZATION, CHANGES IN TERRITORY, AREA, BOUNDARIES AND POPULATION—DERIVATION OF NAME, TOPOGRAPHY, WILDCAT THICKET, SOIL AND WATER PRIVILEGES—FIRST LAND ENTRIES AND PIONEERS—MILLS—SCHOOLS—RELIGIOUS SOCIETIES—JUSTICES—CASS AND WINELAND POSTOFFICES—FRANKFORD.

THIS political subdivision lies in the northern range of townships, and was erected March 4, 1833. It then embraced the whole of Township 2, north, Range 11, the four eastern tiers of sections being taken from Marion, and the two western tiers from Findlay Township, the latter subdivision, previous to the erection of Cass and Portage, embracing all of what is now Allen Township. The first election for township officers was held the first Monday in April, 1833, at which time less than a dozen votes were cast. Upon the erection of Allen Township, in June, 1850, twelve sections were taken off the west side of Cass in the formation of the new township. Since that date Cass has contained an area of twenty-four square miles, or 15,360 acres, and is bounded as follows: On the north by Wood County, on the east by Washington Township, on the south by Marion Township, and on the west by Allen Township. Its population by decades has been as follows: 1840, 588; 1850, 621; 1860, 860; 1870, 759, and 1880, 829.

The township was named in honor of Gen. Lewis Cass, the celebrated Democratic leader of Michigan, and was originally covered with a heavy growth of the several kinds of timber indigenous to northwestern Ohio. The surface is slightly rolling, being sufficiently interspersed with ridges to afford good natural drainage. "Wildcat Thicket" was a windfall about half a mile in width, that during pioneer days ran across the township a little south of the center, the trees all lying with their tops toward the east, indicating that the storm came from the opposite direction. A rank vegetation and a heavy growth of underbrush covered the fallen timber, and afforded a safe lair for the many wild animals then infesting the country. Wild-cats were numerous in this thicket: hence the name. Along the Wood County line the soil is a vegetable loam, except upon the ridges which are composed of a sand and gravel formation, A sand and gravel ridge crosses the north part of the township from east to west. South of this ridge a clay and loam soil prevails, mixed in places with deposits of sand and gravel. The southern and central portions of Cass are drained by the Middle Branch of Portage River, the headwaters of which may be said to have their source in the south part of the township. Two forks meander northward, one from

the southeast corner and the other from the southwest corner of the township, and, after uniting near the east line of Section 15, the stream flows westward into Allen, thence onward into Wood County. Two small tributaries of the same river flow northward from the ridge, and assist in draining that part of the township. Good water is readily found by sinking wells, and sulphur water exists in considerable quantities.

First Land Entries and Pioneers.—The first settlements in this township were made upon the ridge, the earliest entries being made in the north part of the township. In March, 1832, David P. Day entered the northeast quarter of Section 11, and John Franks, the north half of Section 10 and the southwest quarter of Section 1. The following May Rev. Elam Day entered the east half of the northwest quarter of Section 12, and the same month Eleazer C. Fairchild took up the southwest quarter of the southeast quarter of Section 2, and the west half of the northwest quarter of Section 12.

The Days and Fairchilds were the first families to settle in the township. David P. and Elam Day came here respectively from Wayne and Wood Counties, Ohio, in the summer of 1832, the former settling in Section 11 and the latter in Section 12. Elam was a regular minister of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and David P., a local preacher of the same denomination. Both families went to Iowa many years ago. Daniel and Eleazer C. Fairchild, of Trumbull County, Ohio, settled in Sections 1 and 12 respectively, in the fall of 1832. Daniel was the second justice of Cass Township, served one term as county commissioner, and resided on his farm till death. Eleazer C., better known as Curtis, removed to Iowa. None of their descendants are now living in the county.

During the fall of 1832 Gibson McDaniels, Hiram Hulburt, James Wood, Charles W. Goldsborough and Nicholas Helmick all came into the township. McDaniels soon after arriving here married a daughter of Eleazer C. Fairchild, and settled in Section 15, whence he removed to the West. Hiram Hulburt and family located in Section 11, where he carried on a small ashery. He sold out to James Vickers, and moved away at an early day. James Wood and family came from Wayne County, Ohio, and also settled in Section 11. He afterward removed into Marion Township, and there died. Charles W. Goldsborough and family settled in the southeast quarter of Section 1, and in October, 1832, sold fifty acres off his farm to Francis Redfern. In a few years the Goldsboroughs left the county. They were Methodists, and among the organizers of the first Methodist Episcopal class in the township. Nicholas Helmick was a native of Virginia, who had served in the Revolutionary war. He first settled in Section 14, but soon afterward removed to Section 10. He sold his land in Section 14 to Moses Hudson in 1837, and removed to Portage Township, where he spent the remaining years of his life.

It is not easy to determine the year when Jasper and John Franks, Jr., came into this township, for though the latter claims to have settled here in 1829, there was no land entered by any member of the family till March 12, 1832, when John Franks, of Wayne County, Ohio, took up the north half of Section 10, and the southwest quarter of Section 1, Township 2 north, Range 11. The same spring John Franks, Jr., entered the east half of the southwest quarter of Section 4. Mr. Franks says: "In moving out from Wayne County we came through what is now Fostoria and stopped

to assist Charles W. Foster to raise a log house—the first one built in that town." Mrs. Foster, yet a resident of Fostoria, says: "Our house was built in October, 1832, and we moved into it on the 15th of November following." The parents, John and Rachel Franks, their son, Michael, and daughters, Mrs. David Hoyle, Mrs. Jonas Brown and Mrs. Samuel F. Harry, came from Wayne County somewhat later. All of the living pioneers of Cass Township agree in saying that the Franks family did not settle in this county before the fall of 1832, and we believe that to be the correct date of their coming. A village named Frankford was laid out by John Franks, Sr., in July, 1833, on the northwest quarter of Section 10. Mrs. John Franks, Sr., died on the old homestead, and Mr. Franks moved into Seneca County and again married. He subsequently settled in Washington Township, whence he removed to Michigan. Jasper and family went to Iowa; Michael married here and died on his farm in Washington Township. John, Jr., married Sarah Musgrove, of Wayne County, who bore him eight children. His second wife was Elizabeth Fast, by whom there are five children. Mr. Franks, who now resides in Wood County, has accumulated a large estate, much of which he still owns. All of the elder Franks were Pennsylvanians.

James and Sarah (Madison) Vickers were natives of England, and immigrated to the United States about 1818, settling near Pittsburg, Penn., whence they removed to Wayne County, Ohio. In the fall of 1832, Mr. Vickers came to this township and erected a cabin on the northwest quarter of Section 11, on a piece of land previously purchased from its owner, who lived in Wayne County. In April, 1833, with his wife and four children, he journeyed from Wayne County and took possession of his cabin on the ridge which stood on the site of his son James' handsome residence. Mr. Vickers was an enterprising man, and as early as 1838 or 1839 built a sawmill on the run near his home, which did considerable sawing for the neighborhood. The first Methodist society organized in the township held services for many years at his home, and he was one of its most earnest supporters. Mr. Vickers died in 1866, aged seventy-two, his widow surviving him till 1881, and dying in her eighty-fifth year. Of their four children who came with them from Wayne County, and the two born after coming, but three are living, James A., a leading farmer of Cass, being the only one residing in Hancock County.

John Hardy was born in Philadelphia, Penn., July 15, 1797, there married Martha Orr, in August, 1822, and removed to Stark County, Ohio, the same month. On the 31st of May, 1833, he arrived with his family in Cass Township, and settled on the southeast quarter of Section 10. After about four years' residence here he removed to a farm near the west line of what is now Allen Township, where he died October 30, 1860, his widow surviving till 1866. Mr. Hardy was a man of fair education, and taught school for many years. He was also one of the pioneer Methodists of the township and altogether a very worthy citizen.

Other Settlers of 1833 were John Payne, Charles Eckels, John Welch, Frederick Wagner and George and Thomas Elliott. Payne, with his wife and three daughters, located in the southeast quarter of Section 4, and was the first justice elected in the township. After a few years trial the family went back to Medina County. Charles and Magdalene (Karns) Eckels, natives of eastern Ohio, settled in the southeast corner of Section 12, where he

resided till his death, which occurred many years ago. Mr. Eckels was a son of William Eckels, of Washington Township, and left a family of four sons and two daughters. His widow survived him till 1884, and his son Joel now occupies the old homestead. John Welch, a brother-in-law of William Eckels, settled on the west half of the southeast quarter of Section 12, entered by him June 5, 1833. He died on this farm, leaving several children, residents of the county, one of whom, John, lives on the home place. Frederick Wagner located on the east half of the southwest quarter of Section 14, where both he and his wife died. Thomas Elliott also built his cabin on the northeast quarter of Section 14. George Elliott, a brother of Thomas, was a single man, but subsequently married a daughter of William Eckels, and settled on the southwest quarter of Section 12. The Elliotts were from Coshocton County, Ohio, and entered these tracts April 2, 1833. Both sold out at an early day and went to Iowa.

In 1834 George Albertson, John Chaffin and George Rhamy joined the settlement. Mr. Albertson, wife, and several children came from New Jersey and settled on Section 22. His wife died on the farm, and he removed to Arcadia and there died. None of the children are living in this county. John and Margaret Chaffin, natives of Virginia, located in Section 24. In 1838 Mr. Chaffin was elected justice of the peace, and served one term. He died on the home farm, and the family afterward went to Iowa. George Rhamy was from Carroll County, Ohio, and after coming here married Barbara, daughter of Frederick Wagner. He settled in Section 14, where his son, G. W., now lives, and died upon that farm. His widow is still a resident of the township.

The Brandeberrys located in Section 9, in 1835. The father, Rudolph, sons Andrew, Jacob, Isaac and John, and six daughters, came from Ashland County, Ohio. Each son had a farm of eighty acres given to him by the father, who took up a large tract of land. The latter died here, and none of the children are living in this part of the State.

Jacob Shaffer, of Trumbull County, Ohio, entered the southwest quarter and the south half of the northwest quarter of Section 27, October 29, 1833, and in 1835 settled on his land. His wife, Elizabeth, reared a family of one son and three daughters, all of whom are yet living. Andrew resides upon the old homestead, where the parents passed the remaining years of their lives.

John Eckels was born in Westmoreland County, Penn., April 25, 1795, and in 1819 married Esther Booth. In 1836 the parents and four sons, Charles J., James M., Cyrus L. and William H., emigrated from Pennsylvania and settled in Section 10, on land principally purchased of John Franks. Three children were born after coming, and of the seven, four survive. His wife died in 1862, and the following year he married Mrs. Mary McClintock. In 1865 he removed to Findlay, where he died in the fall of 1883. His widow resides with her step-son, Charles J., in North Findlay. Mr. Eckels was of Irish descent, and a man of strong will and decided opinions. He was one of the principal organizers of the Ebenezer Presbyterian Society, of Cass Township, which afterward united with the Portage Society. This organization took place in a log cabin on his farm, in 1837, and he remained a Presbyterian until his removal to Findlay, when he united with the Congregationalists, and died in that faith.

Valentine and Elizabeth Karns emigrated from Maryland to Holmes



Allen Wiseley



County, Ohio, in 1817, and in the fall of 1836 came to Cass Township and settled on Section 10. Four sons and three daughters came with them, some of whom were full grown. The parents died on the old homestead. Ezra is perhaps the best remembered of the family. He was born in Maryland in 1815. In 1839 he married Elizabeth Albertson, of Cass Township, who bore him eight children, and died in 1880. Mr. Karns survived his wife about two years. He was a very enterprising citizen, and assisted in organizing the Hancock County Agricultural Society, in the success of which he always took the deepest interest. Mr. Karns was long recognized as one of the solid, substantial farmers of the county.

L. D. Shippy and family, of Seneca County, located in Section 13, about 1836, and the parents died here. Mrs. David Fowler, one of his daughters, resides in Findlay.

Moses and Lydia Hudson came from Wayne County, Ohio, in 1837, and bought a farm in Section 14, of Nicholas Helmick. Four children came with them, and four were afterward born in this township. Six of these are living, and four are residents of the county, Mrs. James Vickers and James E., living in Cass Township. Mrs. Hudson died upon the home place, and Mr. Hudson is now living with his son, John W., in Allen Township. Several others came into the township in 1837 and 1838. Mr. Canfield settled in Section 16, where his son now lives, and Solomon Bollman, of Wayne County, Ohio, on the farm yet owned by his widow. Both of these pioneers died in the township, but are still pretty well remembered.

Mills.—The pioneer mill of this township was put up by James Vickers, Sr., on Section 11, about 1838. It did a good deal of sawing for the early settlers, and therefore proved a great benefit. Saw-mills have existed in other parts of the township at different periods. The only grist-mill that has ever been in Cass was built by James Anderson, about 1840, on the southeast quarter of Section 2. It was a frame building, and was operated by steam, but after running several years was burned down. He rebuilt the mills, and they were afterward operated by John Halsey and Alva French, though very little grinding was done, the mills being principally devoted to sawing lumber.

Schools.—The pioneer school of Cass Township was opened about 1835, by Richard Wade, in a vacated cabin on the farm of John Hardy. It was attended by the Vickers, Hardys, Wagners, Hulburts, Woods, Elliotts, Albertsons, Wards and George W. Montgomery, grandson of Nicholas Helmick. About 1836 a small log schoolhouse was built in the northeast corner of Section 11, south of the road, immediately southwest of the present schoolhouse on Section 2. The Fairchilds, Days, Vickers, Hulburts, Woods, Welches and Eckels went to school here; and Daniel Fairchild, Richard Wade and William Thomas were the pioneer teachers of this part of the county. Cass now boasts of six good schoolhouses, and all the youth of the township are freely admitted to the advantages which the common schools possess.

Religious Societies.—In 1834 a class of the Methodist Episcopal denomination was organized at the house of Rev. Elam Day, the Days, Hardys, Redferns, Goldsboroughs and James Vickers and wife being the principal organizers. The Hudsons, Albertsons and Brandeberrys were also among its earliest members. The society first met at the house of Rev. Elam Day, and afterward at his brother's, David P. Day. Subsequently a room in the house of James Vickers was used for several years

before a church was built. In 1844 a frame building was erected on the farm of James Vickers, which was replaced in 1871 by the present brick structure. This is familiarly known as the "Vickers Church." Another Methodist Church stands on the southwest quarter of Section 27, which was organized, and a building erected at a much later day.

Ebenezer Society of the Presbyterian Church was organized by Rev. George Van Eman, at a log house on the farm of John Eckels in 1837. John Eckels and wife, James McMurry and wife, William Campbell and wife (of Wood County), and other pioneer families, were among the organizers. John Eckels and William Campbell were elected elders. This society, in September, 1843, united with Pleasant Hill Society, of Portage Township, and as West Union Church they afterward erected a building in Van Buren, where the society has worshiped from the date of its amalgamation. The United Presbyterians built a church quite early near the south line of Section 12, but it has not been used for many years.

Justices.—John Payne, Daniel Fairchild, David Dorsey, John Chaffin, Andrew R. Brandeberry, Alonzo H. Cobb, Joseph Wineland, Samuel Creighton, Joseph Lash, Abner Crawford, Gideon Smith, Addison Hardy, Enoch Ross, Jacob Stecker, John L. McKee, Henry Stough, J. S. Overholt and John Baker.

Cass and Wineland Postoffices.—Cass was the first postoffice the township possessed. It was established in 1837, at the house of Daniel Fairchild, who was succeeded as postmaster by James Vickers, Sr., upon whose death, in 1866, the office was discontinued, having existed for nearly thirty years.

Wineland, the only postoffice in the township, was established January 2, 1883, at the house of Cyrus Stacy, in the northeast corner of Section 28. Mr. Stacy was appointed postmaster, and still holds that position.

The township has never contained a village or hamlet, but July 10, 1833, John Franks, Sr., laid out a town of seventy-two lots, on the northwest quarter of Section 10, which he named Frankford. No lots were sold or buildings erected in the proposed village, and nothing but the recorded plat remains to show that such a place was ever contemplated.

CHAPTER XV.

DELAWARE TOWNSHIP.

ERECTION, SUBSEQUENT CHANGES AND AREA—LOCATION, BOUNDARIES AND POPULATION—TIMBER, STREAMS AND SOIL—PIONEERS—A NOTED HUNTER—FIRST MARRIAGES AND BIRTHS—EARLY MILLS—CHURCHES—SCHOOLS—JUSTICES OF THE PEACE—MT. BLANCHARD—ITS FIRST BUSINESS MEN—POSTMASTERS—MAYORS—RAILROAD AND TELEGRAPH FACILITIES—PRESENT MATERIAL AND SOCIAL INTERESTS OF THE VILLAGE.

SOON after the first election of county officers was held, April 7, 1828, two new townships, called Amanda and Welfare, were erected from Findlay Township, which previously embraced the whole county. As the minutes of the commissioners' journal from the organization of the county up to April, 1829, have been missing for some years from the record book in the auditor's office, it is not possible to give the original boundaries of these townships; but old settlers have stated that Amanda and Welfare then embraced the whole southeast portion of the county. On the 1st of June, 1829, in compliance with a petition presented by the citizens of Welfare Township, the board of commissioners changed the name of that subdivision to Delaware. Upon the erection of Jackson Township December 7, 1829, a part of Delaware was taken into that township, leaving the latter composed of the full congressional Township 2 south, Range 11 east. On March 4, 1834, Township 2 south, Range 12, was attached to Delaware, where it remained till its erection as Richland Township, March 2, 1835. The next change in the boundaries of Delaware occurred June 1, 1840, when the two western tiers of sections were taken in the formation of Madison Township. Wyandot County was erected February 3, 1845, and the five eastern tiers or thirty sections of Richland Township became a part of the new county, thus wiping out Richland as a subdivision of Hancock. The remaining tier of sections was attached by the commissioners to Delaware Township, March 5, 1845, and no change has since occurred in the territory of this subdivision. It contains thirty full sections of land—twenty-four in Township 2, Range 11, and six in Range 12, or an area of 19,200 acres.

Delaware is the southeastern township of Hancock County, and is bounded on the north by Jackson and Amanda Townships, on the east by Wyandot County, on the south by Hardin County, and on the west by Madison Township. In 1840, it contained a population of 532; 1850, 1,035; 1860, 1,231; 1870, 1,280; 1880, 1,455.

The lands of Delaware Township were originally densely covered with oak, elm, ash, maple, walnut, beech, hickory, sycamore, cottonwood, linn, buckeye, hackberry and several other kinds of timber, most of which has long ago disappeared before the ringing blows of the woodman's ax. The Blanchard River enters the township in Section 36, and meandering northward through the central sections thereof strikes the northern boundary

line in Section 2, half a mile northwest of Mt. Blanchard. It receives, in its course through Delaware, Potato Creek and Hancock Run from the southeast, and from the southwest, Wolford's Run and Ripley's Run. Along the Blanchard the surface is rolling, while back from that stream it is generally more level. The prevailing soil is a black, sandy loam, very rich and productive, but on the higher lands a clay mixture predominates, which, however, does not lessen its fertility or value.

Pioneers.—Late in 1821, or early in the following year, Asa Lake and his wife, Cloe, with their son, Asa M., and daughters, Lydia and Martha, removed to this township, and built their cabin on the west half of the northwest quarter of Section 1, which was afterward entered by Asa M., December 12, 1822. This was the first settlement made in Hancock County south of "Chamberlin's Hill." The Lakes, natives of Kentucky, removed from that State to Ohio and settled near the salt works east of the Scioto River, in what is now Jackson County, whence they came to Hancock. In 1824 the father was assessed by Wilson Vance, assessor of Findlay Township, for two horses and eleven head of cattle. Findlay Township then embraced the whole county and was under the jurisdiction of Wood County; and this was the first assessment made within its limits. The parents were aged when they died at the old homestead on the Blanchard. On the 14th of September, 1826, Asa M. Lake was married to Miss Charlotte Greer, daughter of William J. Greer, Sr. The ceremony was performed by Joshua Hedges, a pioneer justice of the peace, who resided about two miles northwest of Findlay. This was the first marriage in the township. Lydia Lake was subsequently married to George W. Wolford, and Martha became the wife of Jesse Rose. Both Asa and Asa M. Lake voted at the first county election held April 7, 1828; and upon the organization of Welfare (now Delaware) Township, in 1828, the latter was chosen justice of the peace, and twice re-elected to the same office. In October, 1830, Asa M. Lake laid out the village of Mt. Blanchard, upon the farm which he settled and improved. The family of Asa M. Lake removed to Logan County, but returned to this township, where he died. His widow is said to be still living in Illinois, and all of the children have removed to the West excepting William, who is yet a resident of Delaware Township.

Michael Burke entered the west half of the northeast quarter of Section 2, January 22, 1823, and settled upon it the same year. In 1824 he was assessed for two horses and two head of cattle. His name would indicate that he was an Irishman or of Irish parentage, but where he lived ere coming to this county is not known. Burke was a noted wolf hunter and spent the most of his time in the pursuit of game. On the 13th of November, 1826, he sold his land to Don Alonzo Hamlin, and with his family soon afterward left the county.

Daniel Hamlin and family were the next to locate in this township. He was a native of Maine, and removed to New York where he married, and about 1818 immigrated to Crawford (now Wyandot) County, Ohio. In 1824, with his wife Keziah, sons Don Alonzo and Daniel, and daughters Lorain P. and Azuba, he removed to this township and built his cabin on the Blanchard, in Section 2. Miss Lorain P. Hamlin married Aquilla Gilbert, now of Vanlue, and Azuba married David H. Edgar, a pioneer of Hardin County, whose school she was attending at the time of her marriage in March, 1831. Daniel and his son, Don Alonzo, voted at the first county election in

April, 1828, at which time the latter was elected sheriff of Hancock County, defeating Reuben Hale, of Findlay, by thirty-nine to thirty-four. He served till the following October election, when he was chosen county assessor, which position he filled several years. In 1828 or 1829 Daniel Hamlin gave the old homestead in Section 2, to Don Alonzo, and removed to land which he had previously entered in Jackson Township, Hardin County, where both he and his son Daniel died in the summer of 1831. His widow, who survived him several years, also died on the homestead in Hardin County. Don Alonzo married Miss Elizabeth Slight, daughter of Thomas Slight, a pioneer of Findlay, who bore him several children. About 1840, he went to Iowa, where he passed the balance of his days. After his death some of his children returned to Hancock County. Don Alonzo possessed a better education than the average pioneer, and therefore wielded quite an influence among his neighbors. Many of the first settlers could neither read nor write, and a man of even limited education was the exception, and therefore looked upon by his less fortunate neighbors as a scholar. Such men as Don Alonzo Hamlin were great blessings to the scattered settlements in molding the sentiments of the people and encouraging the early establishment of schools.

The Greer family were the next to cast their fortunes with the Blanchard settlement. In the spring of 1825 William J. Greer and his wife, Sarah, natives of Maryland, located on the east half of the northwest quarter of Section 1, immediately east of the Lakes, entered by him December 10, 1823. They had eight children when they came to this township, viz. : William J., John H., Charlotte, James, Fielder D., Henry and Samuel. Charlotte was married to Asa M. Lake September 14, 1826, this being the first marriage in the settlement. William J. was subsequently married to Miss Rosannah Elder, daughter of Robert Elder, which was the second marriage in Delaware. Joshua Hedges, a justice of the peace, then residing northwest of Findlay about two miles, married both couples. A recent local publication tells an amusing story about the marriage of Mr. Greer and Miss Elder, giving an account of their trip through the forest to Findlay for the license, thence to Squire Hedges, where they were married, and thence back to their home in Delaware Township, both riding the whole distance upon one horse. Henry Greer (a brother of the groom), now a resident of Mt. Blanchard, says: "There is not a word of truth in this story. Squire Hedges came to Robert Elder's house, and it was there the marriage occurred. Our family and some of the Hamlins were at the wedding." Such seems to be the fate of many similar pioneer yarns. In the summer of 1827 another daughter, Maria, was born to William J. Greer, Sr., she being the first white female born in the township. The parents were Methodists, and the first class of the Methodist Episcopal Church in this section was organized at their cabin on Potato Creek, by the Revs. Thompson and Gavit. Both died in this township, and here, too, the four eldest sons passed away. Henry is the only one of the children now residing in the county.

Reuben W. Hamlin comes next in the order of time. He was a native of Maine, removed to New York with his parents, where he grew to manhood, served through the war of 1812, and subsequently married Lovisa Earl, a native of the Empire State. In 1818 he and his wife settled in Cleveland, Ohio, then a small hamlet, where he carried on a little store, and here

his first child, M. S., now a resident of Mt. Blanchard, was born. In 1824, with his wife and three children, he left Cleveland and took up his residence in what is now Crawford Township, Wyandot Co., Ohio, and in the spring of 1825, arrived at the settlement on the Blanchard, and at once began the erection of a cabin in Section 2, near the improvement of Daniel Hamlin. He soon became familiar with the lands of Hancock County, and throughout the pioneer days was one of the popular land hunters of this region. He sold the first goods in Delaware Township, carrying on a small store at his house for the Carlin Bros., of Findlay, about five years. His name is found among the seventy-four electors who voted at the first county election April 7, 1828. At the general October election, held that year, he and Thomas Slight were opposing candidates for coroner, but Slight was elected. Reuben W. Hamlin was the father of eight children, six of whom are living, but only one, M. S., is a resident of this county, the others having removed to the West. The mother died in 1837, and in 1838 Mr. Hamlin went to Indiana where he lived several years. Returning to Ohio he settled in Wyandot County, there remarried, and died in 1854.

Godfrey Wolford also came in 1825, and settled in Section 11. He was a native of Pennsylvania, and was married in Coshocton County, Ohio, to Miss Elizabeth Elder, daughter of Robert Elder, and she bore him five sons and three daughters, viz.: Gideon, Robert E., John F., Mayor C., William, Catherine, Elizabeth and Phœbe. In April, 1828, Mr. Wolford was one of the three commissioners elected to serve until the succeeding October election, when he was again a candidate for the same position, but was defeated. He was afterward a justice of the peace of Delaware Township from 1834 to 1851, inclusive. In 1826 he built a hand-mill, which was used by the struggling settlers until 1829–30, when he erected a grist-mill on the Blanchard, which he operated for several years, and then sold to John Hanley. It was the first mill built south of Findlay in this county, and was of inestimable value to the pioneers of the southern part of Hancock. Mr. Wolford was a very useful citizen, and exerted a good influence in the township. He and his wife removed to Indiana, and there died, but two of his sons, Robert E. and John F., reside in Madison Township.

In the fall of 1825 Robert and Catherine Elder and five children, viz.: Ephraim, John, Joseph, Jeremiah and Rosannah, natives of Pennsylvania, who had previously settled in Coshocton County, Ohio, located near the site of Mt. Blanchard. Ephraim and John were married, while Elizabeth, the wife of Godfrey Wolford, had come out the previous spring. The other three were single. Rosannah subsequently married William J. Greer, Jr. In March, 1826, Mrs. Ephraim Elder, who is a daughter of John Wolford, gave birth to a son. From the fact that the little stranger was the first white child born in the settlement, some one suggested "Blanchard" as an appropriate name for the boy, but the mother stoutly refused, and named him John B. Three of the Elders—Ephraim, Josiah and John—cast their votes at the April election in 1828. The first case on the civil docket of the court of common pleas was brought by Robert Elder and wife, in November, 1828, against Asa M. Lake and wife for slander. The suit was decided in favor of the defendants, the plaintiffs being ordered to pay the costs, which were $2.22, truly not a very heavy bill; but the case goes to prove that the pioneers did not dwell in such Christian harmony as some of the few yet living would have us believe.

Robert Elder and wife and their four sons spent the balance of their lives in Delaware Township, where the widows of Ephraim and Josiah still reside. Mrs. Wolford removed from the county, and Rosannah, upon the death of Mr. Greer, married Simeon Ransbottom, and, for her third husband, Joseph Helms, and died in Findlay. Josiah was perhaps the most prominent and best known member of the family, though all of them are well remembered in this township.

No more settlers came into the township for the next three years, but in the summer of 1828 John Wolford and sons—Absalom W., George W. and Andrew—located on the Blanchard in Section 23, where he entered 160 acres of land June 17 of that year. They soon afterward erected a saw-mill, and subsequently began the erection of a grist-mill, but ere the latter was completed John Wolford died; and in August, 1832, Felix Miller purchased the property and finished the mill. Mrs. Ephraim Elder, of Mt. Blanchard, is a daughter of Mr. Wolford, and at this writing the only surviving member of his family.

Among other pioneers of this period were John Rose, Nathan Williams, Warren and Van R. Hancock and Harvey Smith. Mr. Rose entered the east half of the northwest quarter of Section 23, December 10, 1823, but did not locate upon his land till 1828. He was one of the first township trustees, and in 1832 was elected county commissioner, and in 1855 justice of the peace. His wife, Margaret, died January 6, 1863, and March 21, 1883, he too passed away. Both were natives of Maryland. One of his sons, Aaron F. B., yet resides in the township. Nathan Williams and wife, Nancy, who came in the summer of 1828, are not so well remembered by the present generation. Mrs. Williams died soon after coming here, this being the first death in the settlement. Nathan afterward married Annie Hamlin, sister of Reuben W. Hamlin, and removed to Michigan. The Hancocks settled in the northeast quarter of Section 14 in the summer of 1828, and lived in the township for many years. Harvey Smith came the same summer, and settled in Section 1. He resided in this part of the county until after the close of the Rebellion, when he followed his brother, Cephas, to the West. All of the foregoing, except John Rose, voted at the general election in October, 1828.

The year 1829 ushered in Michael Casner, William Davis and Ayers Stradley. Casner settled in Section 10, where he resided till his death, his family afterward removing to the West. Davis entered the east half of the northwest quarter of Section 14 in 1823, though he did not settle upon it for some six years after that date. He and his wife died in the township, and their son, Asariah, is now residing on the old homestead. Stradley built his cabin on Potato Creek, and after a residence of several years here died, and the widow removed with the family to Indiana.

Samuel F. Treece and wife, Maria, natives of Pennsylvania, removed with their parents to Pickaway County, Ohio, where they were married. In the fall of 1830 they came to Hancock County, and settled in the northwest corner of this township. After a residence here of some twenty years they removed to Jackson Township, and in the spring of 1882 to Arlington, where they are now living.

In 1830-31 Felix Miller, Josiah Smith and Cephas Smith located in the township. Miller, in August, 1832, became owner of the saw-mill erected by John Wolford, in Section 23, and completed the grist-mill begun by the

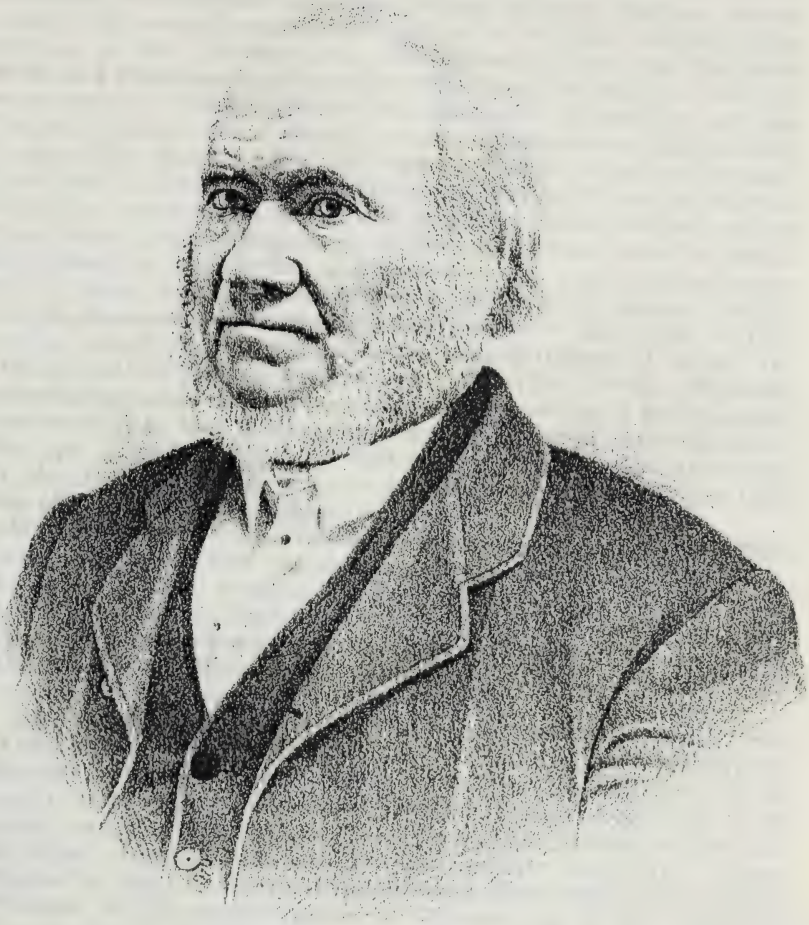
latter. Josiah Smith, who is now living at Forest, Hardin County, settled in Section 1, while his brother Darius, who came with him, built his cabin in Amanda Township. Cephas Smith settled in Section 7, whence he removed West about 1850–51.

The township was now pretty well settled; large clearings had been made in the forest, and those who came later found a hearty welcome and willing hands ready to render any assistance needed. From 1831 to 1835 Dr. A. F. Burson, John Lafferty, William Musgrave, James Taylor, John P. Gordon, Abner Bell, Joshua Brown, Abijah Smith, Michael Shafer, Job Phillips, Samuel R. Phillips, Robert Wilson, George Sebastian, John Treece and a few others came into the township. But more than a decade had then passed by since the first cabin was erected in Delaware Township, and these later comers can scarcely be regarded as pioneers in the true sense of that term, though many of them did their full share toward building up and improving their adopted county.

Early Mills.—A small hand-mill, built by Godfrey Wolford, in 1826, was the first mill of any kind in this portion of the county, and the pioneers came long distances to do their grinding. Mr. Wolford was a blacksmith and therefore a very useful man. For the convenience of the settlers he set up the mill in the open space between the double log-cabin of Ephraim Elder, where each man did his own grinding, and no charges were made. This rude mill served the purpose till 1829–30, when Mr. Wolford erected a grist-mill on the Blanchard in Section 11, which was the first flouring-mill operated in the county outside of Findlay. It was a godsend to the pioneers of this portion of Hancock, as the difficulty of procuring breadstuffs was one of the greatest hardships they had to undergo. In 1834 this mill was appraised by the assessor at $500. It ran constantly during the milling seasons, and though it was often frozen up in winter, and stopped in summer by low water, the judicious farmer tried to keep sufficient flour on hand to bridge over these stoppages. Mr. Wolford ran the mill for several years, then sold it to John Hanley. A saw-mill was subsequently added thereto. These mills finally became the property of George S. Fahl, who carried them on till 1862, when he turned them over to his son Silas, who, in 1872, added thereto a steam planing-mill, shingle-mill and lath factory, all of which are still in full operation.

About 1831–32, John Wolford built a saw-mill on the Blanchard in Section 23. After getting it in running order he began the construction of a grist-mill, but he died before its completion; Felix Miller bought the property in August, 1832, and finished the mill. In 1834 these mills were in full operation, and were appraised at $600. Steam was finally substituted for water-power, but after some years the machinery was taken out and the buildings allowed to rot down.

Churches.—The first religious society in this township was organized in 1828–29, at the cabin of William J. Greer, Sr., by Revs. Thomas Thompson and Elnathan C. Gavit, itinerants of the Methodist Episcopal Church then stationed with the Indians at Upper Sandusky. William J. Greer, Sr., and wife, Robert Elder and wife, Mrs. Mordecai Hammond, Mrs. Godfrey Wolford, Mrs. Ephraim Elder, Mrs. John Elder and George Swigart and wife, of Hardin County, were the organizers of this class. Mr. Greer lived immediately east of the site of Mount Blanchard, on Potato Creek, and the society continued to meet at his house till the erection of a hewed-log school-



S. F. Dulin



house, in the fall of 1833, on the corner of his son's (William J.) farm. This was used some five years, when the society, in 1838, built a frame church in Mt. Blanchard. It was the first church erected in the village, and served the congregation about twenty years, at which time the erection of the present frame structure near the southern limits of the town became a necessity. Delaware Township can boast of six church buildings, three of which are in Mt. Blanchard, viz.: the Methodist Episcopal, Methodist Protestant and Presbyterian, all of which have good buildings and flourishing congregations. Outside the town the Methodist Protestants have two churches and the Baptists one, though the latter organization is almost extinct.

Schools.—The pioneer school of Delaware Township was opened about 1829, in a cabin erected by Robert Elder, on Section 11, and subsequently fixed up for school purposes. It was taught by John Wolford, and the Hamlins, Greers, Lakes, Hammonds, Wolfords and Elders were the pupils. In 1830 a small log schoolhouse was erected on the farm of John Rose in Section 14, which was opened and taught that year by Joshua Corbin. This was the first building erected for school purposes. In the fall of 1833 a hewed-log schoolhouse was put up on the farm of William J. Greer, Jr., being the second one built in the township. With the increase of population schoolhouses made their appearance in every portion of the township, and these were, from time to time, succeeded by buildings more in harmony with the age. The township now contains seven good schoolhouses outside of Mt. Blanchard, while the one in the village is a two-storied brick structure of three rooms, and under the graded system.

Justices of the Peace.—The following is a complete list of the justices of Delaware Township from its erection, as Welfare, in 1828, up to the present: Asa M. Lake, Godfrey Wolford, John Lafferty, Harvey Smith, Benjamin Corbin, Robert Taylor, John Rose, Thomas Miller, Robert Park, E. A. Sheffield, Jacob Bridinger, Jacob Harris, George W. Beard, Josiah Fahl, Balser Hauman, Elias Wilson and James C. Treece. Messrs. Fahl and Treece are the present justices of the township.

Mt. Blanchard.—This is the only village in the township, and was laid out on Sections 1 and 2 by Asa M. Lake, October 19, 1830, and originally embraced 53 lots; but several additions have been made to the plat. It is believed to be the site of a Wyandot village, and lies on the high lands immediately east of the Blanchard River, from which stream the town derived its name. James Taylor was the first business man of the village, soon followed by John P. Gordon, James Greer, Abner Bell, Elijah Stradley and Samuel K. Thompson. Dr. A. F. Burson came to Mt. Blanchard in 1832. He was the first physician to locate here, where he followed his profession about thirty years. Other early physicians were Drs. C. R. Fairchild, Peter Stephens and Mansfield. Dr. Burson is still a resident of the village, though retired from practice for many years.

In 1834 a postoffice was established at Mt. Blanchard, and John P. Gordon appointed postmaster. His successors have been Elijah Stradley, Chester Cook, W. W. Smith, John Lafferty, Joseph Patterson, L. A. Baldwin, Henry Greer, C. H. Stewart and J. C. Treece.

Mt. Blanchard grew slowly with the passing years, and on the 5th of December, 1865, was incorporated. The following citizens have filled the mayoralty, in the order named: Dr. John Foster, H. C. Pickett, J. W.

Turnpaugh, J. W. Wingate, W. W. Hughes, A. F. Naus, J. W. Pickett, Jacob Harris, R. W. McVay, Isaiah Bell and R. W. McVay.

The town possessed no railroad facilities until the construction of the Cleveland, Delphos & St. Louis Narrow Gauge. This road was commenced in the summer of 1881, reached Mt. Blanchard in December, 1882, and the first through train passed over the line from Delphos to Mt. Blanchard January 1, 1883. It crosses the northern part of the township east to Mt. Blanchard, thence diverges northeastward to Carey, and affords a shipping outlet for this portion of the county. Its construction infused considerable new life into Mt. Blanchard, but some of the citizens of the village now claim that the road is of very little advantage to them. The Cleveland, Delphos & Western Telegraph Company opened a line from Delphos to Mt. Blanchard on the same day the road was opened, and this is also finished to Carey, and has been a great convenience to the town and surrounding country.

The town now contains two dry goods stores, two general grocery stores, two drug stores, one boot and shoe store, two wagon shops, three blacksmith shops, a good steam flouring-mill, a steam saw and planing mill, a meat market, a hotel and a saloon, and has five physicians. The Odd Fellows, Masons and Grand Army of the Republic have each a lodge in the village. Comet Lodge, No. 344, I. O. O. F., was instituted in 1858, and now contains nearly sixty members. The lodge owns a hall which was erected many years ago. Mt. Blanchard Lodge, No. 519, F. & A. M., was instituted in 1878, and has a membership of about thirty. It meets in a rented hall. Stoughton Post, No. 386, was organized October 13, 1883, has between forty and fifty members, and meets in the council room of the village. The Methodist Episcopal, Methodist Protestant and Presbyterian (organized in 1850) denominations have each a church in Mt. Blanchard. The people of the town are particularly fond of referring to their efficient graded union school, organized in 1868. The present commodious two-story brick building was erected in 1873, at a total cost of about $8,000, succeeding the more modest frame, whose predecessor was the old-fashioned log structure of "ye olden time," built when scholars were few and money scarce. It contains three comfortable school-rooms, fitted up with such modern conveniences as are found in all the graded schools of Ohio, while a competent teacher has charge of each room. The official census of 1880 gives Mt. Blanchard a population of 285, but its citizens now claim nearly 400. It is a healthy, bustling little place, possessing many nice homes and a well shaded street. The handsome residence of M. S. Hamlin, in the south part of the town, will compare favorably with the finer residences of metropolitan cities.

CHAPTER XVI.

EAGLE TOWNSHIP.

ERECTION, NAME AND AREA—LOCATION AND POPULATION BY DECADES—TOPOGRAPHY AND WATER PRIVILEGES—TIMBER AND SOIL—MILK SICKNESS—PIONEERS PRIOR TO 1839—GRIST AND SAW MILLS—EARLY EDUCATION—RELIGIOUS SOCIETIES—JUSTICES—TOWNS AND POSTOFFICES—RAILROAD FACILITIES AND PRESENT APPEARANCE OF THE COUNTRY.

ALL of the territory now composing Eagle Township, belonged to Findlay up to December 6, 1830, but on that date Liberty was erected, and the four western tiers of sections in Township 1 south, Range 10, became a part of the latter subdivision. The two eastern tiers of the same township and range still remained in Findlay Township, until March 7, 1831, when Townships 1 and 2 south in Range 10 were set off by the commissioners from Liberty and Findlay "to be known and designated by the name of Van Buren." On the 3d of December, 1832, in compliance with a petition of certain citizens residing therein, Township 1 south, Range 10, was taken from Van Buren and erected as Eagle Township, receiving its name from the stream which flows through it. No change has since occurred in its territory, which covers a full congressional township of thirty-six sections, or an area of 23,040 acres.

Eagle lies south of Liberty and Findlay Townships, west of Jackson, north of Madison and Van Buren, and east of Union. In 1840 it contained a population of 524; 1850, 950; 1860, 1,371; 1870, 1,330 and 1880, 1,284, showing a gradual decrease since 1860. Between 1860 and 1870 the falling off in population was forty-one, and between 1870 and 1880 it was forty-six, or a total decrease since 1860 of eighty-seven inhabitants. This would indicate that the farms are increasing in size or that marriage is less prolific than in former years, both of which, perhaps, are true.

A general sameness prevails in the topography of Eagle Township, showing a gentle dip toward the north, the streams flowing in that direction. The surface is level, except along Eagle Creek, where low bluffs are found at intervals. This stream comes in from Madison Township near the southeast corner of Section 35, and, winding northeastward, traverses the whole eastern part of Eagle, leaving it near the northeast corner of Section 1; thence pursues the same course through Findlay Township, and empties into the Blanchard in the east suburb of Findlay. Eagle Creek has been of incalculable benefit to the country through which it flows, not only as a source of drainage, but as a furnishing power for mill purposes during the past fifty-three years. It receives two small runs in this township from the west line of Jackson. Tiderishi Creek has its source in the northeast part of Van Buren Township. It flows northward into Eagle about a mile and a half, then sweeps around toward the west, and after flowing some two and a half miles in that direction, through Sections 27, 28 and 29, makes a sharp turn northeastward, and describing a half circle passes into Union Township.

near the northwest corner of Eagle, and discharges its waters into Ottawa Creek in the southwest quarter of Section 1, Union Township. Tiderishi receives three small tributaries in its route; one from the south near its source, one from the east near the center of the township, and a third from the southeast a short distance from its mouth. Ottawa Creek crosses the southwest corner of the township, while Comer's Run takes its rise in the northeast portion. It can thus be seen that the entire township is thoroughly supplied with good water privileges and surface drainage. Pure water may be found at a slight depth in every part of Eagle, the wells generally ranging from fifteen to twenty-five feet.

The original timber consisted of the finest quality of oak, walnut, ash, maple, elm, beech, linn, buckeye, cherry, sycamore and other less valuable kinds found in other sections of the county. A rank vegetation covered the rich soil, forming a dense thicket almost impassable. A sandy vegetable loam is the predominating soil in this township, interspersed with strips of heavier clay and gravel lands, all of which are very fertile.

From the earliest settlement some portions of Eagle Township have been affected by that dread disease commonly known as "milk-sickness." The best medical authorities disagree as to the producing cause of the disease, some attributing it to mineral and others to vegetable poisoning. The writer has seen its unfortunate effects, both on man and beast, in different counties of Ohio, Indiana and Illinois, and has noticed in nearly every case that the cattle were allowed to roam at will and feed upon the rank vegetation natural to the country. Dr. A. F. Burson, of Mt. Blanchard, who has had a long and successful experience in the treatment of "milk-sickness," gives it as his opinion that the disease comes from the cattle eating the three-leafed poisonous ivy. It is, however, evident that wherever the country affected has been under cultivation, and a good drainage system prevails, "milk-sickness" soon disappears.

Pioneers. Early in the summer of 1829 John Woodruff and wife and their sons, Adam, Elijah and William Y., came to Eagle Township, and were the first white settlers who took up their residence within its boundaries. John entered lands in Sections 25, 26 and 35, June 1, 1829; Adam in Sections 25 and 26, on same date, and Elijah in Section 13, five days afterward. The parents built their cabin on the east bank of Eagle Creek, in Section 26, where Mrs. Isaac Smith and family now reside, and here both spent the balance of their lives. Adam Woodruff and his wife located on the section immediately north of the parents. Their cabin stood close to Eagle Creek on the farm now occupied by Mrs. Nicholas Rinehart. Adam died on this place. One of his children, John, is a wealthy citizen of Dunkirk, Ohio. Elijah and William Y. were single when they came to this township. Upon his marriage, Elijah settled on his farm in Section 13, where he resided till his death. Five of his children are residents of the township. William Y. remained a bachelor till late in life, and finally settled in the northwest part of the county. The Woodruffs took a prominent part in the organization of Eagle Township, and were among its first officials.

The next settlers were John Decker and Conrad Line, both of whom came in 1830. The former was sent out by George Bishop to make a settlement on his land in Section 24, Mr. Bishop's son, John D., assisting the Decker family to move here in the spring of that year. Mr. Decker was one of the first trustees of the township. His sons, Elias and Elijah, were

young men at that time, and helped the father to erect a cabin and make a clearing on the Bishop farm. After several years' residence in this township the family went West. Mr. Line, a native of Pennsylvania, first settled in Fairfield County, Ohio. On the 1st of February, 1830, he entered the west half of the southwest quarter of Section 24, and began improving it the same year, which work he continued throughout the following spring and summer. In the fall of 1831 Mr. Line returned to Fairfield County, and on the 22d of September married Miss Catherine Cross, a native of Maryland, and toward the close of November arrived with his young wife at his rude log-cabin in the forest of Eagle Township. About one year passed away when an event occurred which somewhat relieved the monotony of forest life. This was the birth of their son—Peter—on the 11th of October, 1832, who is yet a resident of the township. Mr. Line assisted in organizing the township, and filled the office of township treasurer about fifteen years. In 1861 he was elected commissioner, and served one term. The parents spent the balance of their days here, and two of their children, Peter and Elijah C., are worthy farmers of the township.

In 1831 Benjamin O. Whitman and William Williamson took up their residence in Eagle Township. Mr. Whitman was a native of New York, there married Deborah, the eldest daughter of Job Chamberlin, Sr., who settled on "Chamberlin's Hill" in the spring of 1822. Upon the death of Mrs. Chamberlin, January 8, 1829, Mr. Whitman and wife came to Hancock County, and went to live at the home of Mr. Chamberlin. In 1831 Mr. Whitman settled on a piece of land in Section 26, Eagle Township, previously purchased by his father-in-law. In the spring of 1833 he was elected justice of the peace and filled the office one term. His house stood on the west bank of Eagle Creek, and here he resided till his death, his widow surviving him a few years and dying in 1854. Mr. Williamson was a half brother of Aaron Williamson, who first settled in Jackson Township. He came from Pickaway County, Ohio, and located in the southeast quarter of Section 1, where he lived till a short time before the war, when he went to Illinois. He served as justice of this township from 1839 to 1841 inclusive.

William Ebright removed to this township from the Blanchard River about 1832, settling in Section 13. He had located on that stream, in what is now Amanda Township, some three or four years prior to coming to Eagle Township. He removed from the township at quite an early day.

John D. Bishop was the next permanent settler. In 1829 his father, George Bishop, came from his home in Franklin County, Ohio, and on November 9, at the first sale of lots, purchased lot 17 in Findlay for the small sum of $12. On the 12th of the same month he entered the northwest quarter of Section 24, Eagle Township, and in 1830 sent out his son John D., with John Decker and family, to settle the latter on his entry. In 1832 he and his son again came to the township, and built a saw-mill on the west bank of Eagle Creek. The following year they erected a grist mill, and John D. settled permanently upon this land, which his father had always intended he should do in due time. He married Miss Sidney A. Williamson, of Pickaway County, Ohio. The mills were burned down in 1837 or 1838, but were immediately rebuilt, and have been in operation ever since. Mr. Bishop served two terms as commissioner of Hancock County, and was always one of the township's most progressive citizens. He died May 9, 1884, after a residence in the county of more than half a century.

The Powells, Jacob, John and Philip, came in 1833. They were born in Pennsylvania, whence they removed with their parents to Fairfield County, Ohio. In the fall of 1831 they each entered land in Eagle Township, Jacob in Section 5, John in Section 9, and Philip in Section 8. Jacob married Miss Mary M. Hart, in 1831, and in June, 1833, removed to this county, settling permanently the following month where he now lives. Mr. Powell has been justice of the peace twenty-four years, a fair evidence of his standing in the community where he has lived so long. His wife is the mother of fourteen children, twelve of whom grew to maturity and nine are yet living. John Powell, with his wife, Polly (Fellers), came in the fall of 1833, and located in Section 9. He was twice married, and died in Findlay March 2, 1885. Philip Powell married Elizabeth Fellers; he did not settle permanently on his land till 1834. His wife died here, and he was afterward twice married, dying upon the old homestead, where his son, Peter, now lives, August 29, 1866. The parents of these three pioneers came to the county at a later day and passed their declining years among their children.

About the same time that the Powells came to the township, Jacob Sharp, Henry Keel and Amos Crum settled here. Mr. Sharp was a native of Fairfield County, Ohio, and the pioneer blacksmith of this part of the county. He came here a single man about 1832, and soon afterward built a cabin and opened a blacksmith shop in Section 23, which he carried on many years. In 1835 he married Julia A. Whitman, a niece of Benjamin O. Whitman, who died in 1854. Mr. Sharp remarried and went to live in Hardin County, but in 1866 removed to Michigan, where he died in 1871. Rev. Lyman Sharp, born on the old homestead in 1836, is a resident of the township. Henry and Catherine Keel, natives of Pennsylvania, settled in Fairfield County, Ohio, about 1823, and some six years afterward located in the northwest corner of what is now Amanda Township. On the 31st of May, 1833, Mr. Keel entered the northwest quarter of Section 14, Eagle Township, to which he soon removed, and here he died in 1854, his widow surviving him about four years. They reared a family of seven sons and two daughters, four of whom are living and reside in this county. John and Samuel live in Benton, Mrs. Robert Barnhill in Liberty Township, and Abraham is one of the few surviving pioneers of Eagle Township. Amos and Rebecca Crum settled in Section 13, on the east line of the township, in 1833; he died upon the home farm, his widow in Allen County. In 1845 "Clements" postoffice was established at his house, and Mr. Crum was postmaster until his death, being succeeded by his widow. One of his sons is a business man of Dunkirk, Hardin County.

In 1834 Moses Elsea, Peter Oman, Jacob Zoll, Henry Stiner, Daniel Feller and George W. Alspach came into the township. Mr. Elsea was from Pickaway County, and in the spring of 1834 built his cabin on the west half of the northwest quarter of Section 11, which land he had previously entered. He raised a family of six sons and four daughters, and accumulated a large estate, which his descendants are now enjoying. A few years ago he removed to Findlay, where his wife, Mary A., died, April 11, 1881, and he March 30, 1885. Peter Oman came with Mr. Elsea from Pickaway County, and settled in the east part of Section 10, immediately west of the latter. Both he and his wife are still living upon the old farm. Jacob Zoll came in 1833, but did not settle here till the following year,

when, with his family, he located in Section 15. He died in 1861, and one of his sons, David, lives near the old homestead. Henry Stiner settled in the southwest part of the township, in Section 32, early in 1834. He afterward sold his farm to Peter Arras, and removed to Williamstown. Daniel Feller, of Fairfield County, located in Section 17, in the spring of 1834. His wife died the following spring, and he soon afterward sold his land to Jacob Cogley, and returned to Fairfield County. He again married, and in the fall of 1839 came back to this township, and settled in Section 20, where he has ever since resided. Of his family of twelve children, five are yet living. George W. Alspach also came from Fairfield County, in the spring of 1834, and entered the employ of John Powell. He was then a single man, and the same fall he went back to Fairfield County, but again returned and began work for Jacob Zoll, whose daughter, Elizabeth, he married February 15, 1835. He settled in Section 22, in a rude log cabin, without door or window, and began life in the wilderness. After a short trial of pioneer life Mr. Alspach and wife, in 1836, returned to Fairfield County, but in 1838 came back again and located on their farm, where he resided till his removal to Findlay in 1883.

During the years 1833–34 a number of other families came into the township. James Smith, a Yankee, familiarly called "Yankee Smith," came from Delaware County, Ohio, and located in Section 15, in 1833, whence he removed to Michigan. William Farmer, of Virginia, came from Fairfield County, Ohio, the same year, and died here. William Greenlee also settled in Eagle Township in 1833. His cabin stood in the northwest part of the township, but in a few years he moved away. Charles Phillips, a native of Pennsylvania, settled in the northwest corner of the township in 1834, where he resided till his death. Jonathan Alspach, also a Pennsylvanian, located in Section 15 in 1834, whence he removed to Indiana. Peter Feller, a native of the Keystone State, came from Fairfield County, Ohio, in the fall of 1834, with his wife, Catherine, and eleven children. He settled in Section 8, where both he and his wife passed the remainder of their days, the former dying in 1856, and the latter in 1859. Their son Joseph resides upon the old homestead.

In 1835 David Cogley, Samuel Yates, Peter Swisher, John McNeal, Lower Walter, Isaac Lanning, Jacob Yeider and Martin Hollabaugh took up their residence in Eagle Township. In 1834 Mr. Cogley, his wife, Elizabeth, and three children, all natives of Pennsylvania, came to Findlay, and the following year purchased the farm of Daniel Feller in Section 17, Eagle Township, where both he and his wife died, the latter in 1850, the former in 1853. Jacob, Jr., lives on the old farm. Samuel Yates, a native of Virginia, married Margaret Swisher in Franklin County, Penn., and in 1830 removed to Richland County, Ohio. In the fall of 1835 he came to this township, settling on Section 3, where his wife died in 1876, and he the following year. Their eldest son, Samuel, lives on a part of the old homestead. Peter Swisher and John McNeal were brothers-in-law of Samuel Yates, Sr., and came about the same time. The former is still a resident of the township, but McNeal died in Findlay. Lower Walter still lives on the farm settled by him in 1835; while Isaac Lanning who came with him from Fairfield County, Ohio, died on his farm, which adjoined Walter's. Jacob Yeider, a German, came from Richland County, Ohio, about 1835, and settled in Section 11, where he spent the balance of his life. Martin Hollabaugh

was a native of Maryland, there married Delia Grate, and in June, 1835, with his wife and two children, settled on Section 36, in the southeast corner of the township. He built a large frame house, and the following year laid out Martins Town on his land and opened a general store, which he carried on till his death, caused by milk-sickness, July 21, 1837. The widow removed to Findlay, subsequently married Jacob Rosenberg, and is now the wife of Jacob Carr.

John Crist and Daniel Tiffany came in 1836. The former was from Fairfield County, Ohio, and settled in Section 22, where both he and his wife died—latter in 1841 and former in 1845. Tiffany, with his sons—George, Richard, Daniel and Luther—also two daughters, was from the Western Reserve, and located northwest of Martin Hollabaugh. John, Amasa, Watson and Reuben Fabun came with the Tiffanys and settled in the same neighborhood.

In the spring of 1836 David, John, Alexander and James McClelland came from Beaver County, Penn., the first mentioned settling with his wife in Section 34. The others entered lands, but did not settle permanently till the fall of 1836. In the spring of 1837 their parents, Robert M. and Rebecca McClelland, with three more children, Thomas, George W. and Nancy, left Beaver County, and traveling across Ohio settled on the land previously entered in Section 27. The parents died on the old homestead, where Mrs. James McClelland now lives, and George W. is the only one of their children now residing in the county.

Ami Nunemaker and Adriel Gilberson settled on Section 31 in 1836. The former came from Fairfield County, Ohio, but was a native of Germany. He entered his land in 1832, and four years later with his family and David Houdeshell, now of Arlington, located permanently. Mr. Nunemaker died at Mt. Cory in 1884. Gilberson sold his land to George Bormouth, and left the county many years ago. Samuel Povenmire, of Pennsylvania, came from Pickaway County, Ohio, about 1836 and still resides in the township. William Foreman also settled in Eagle in 1836.

Joseph D. Keller and Henry Oman, natives of Pennsylvania, located in the township in the spring of 1837. The former was born October 12, 1812; married Sarah A., daughter of Henry Oman, in 1836, and the following spring accompanied his father-in-law to Hancock County. In the fall of 1837 he settled on his present farm in Section 33, where he and his wife have ever since resided. Seven children have been born to them, five of whom survive. Mr. Oman, with his wife, Eleanor, and family, settled on the northwest quarter of Section 9, where the parents resided till their death, the mother dying in 1849 and the father in 1859, in his eightieth year. Six of their children are living, all residents of Hancock County.

George C. and Magdalene Schmidt and family emigrated from Germany, and a few years afterward entered land in Section 18, Eagle Township, and in 1838 settled near the west line of that subdivision. The parents died here in 1864 and 1865, respectively, and their sons, Christian and Michael, and daughters, Mrs. Jacob Cogley and Mrs. Joseph Feller, are residents of the township.

The same year (1838) Jacob Gorby, with his mother and brother-in-law, Joshua Garte and wife, came here from Portage County, Ohio. His mother died in 1841 and his sister (Mrs. Garte) in 1845. In 1852 he located on Section 7, where he lived until his removal to Rawson.



Justus Chase



The foregoing list of pioneers embraces the first ten years of settlement, though a few others no doubt came in during that period. Many later comers did more toward the development of the township than some of those mentioned, but the object of this article is to name the pioneers,

Grist and Saw mills.—John Decker's hand-mill was the first one used in this township, but the process was so slow and required so much labor to grind a small amount of corn that it was only patronized from stern necessity. In 1832 a saw-mill was built on Eagle Creek on the northwest quarter of Section 24, by George and John D. Bishop. As soon as the mill could be got in running order, they began getting out material for a frame grist-mill, which was erected in 1833. These mills were burned down in 1837 or 1838, but John D. Bishop, with commendable enterprise, at once rebuilt them. The mill was remodeled in the spring of 1865 and has ever since been in successful operation. In 1854 Mr. Bishop put in steam power, but after a few years' trial steam was abandoned, and the water power again adopted. This old mill was of incalculable benefit to that portion of the county throughout the years when flour was scarce and a mill a blessing to the struggling settlers.

In 1835 Jacob Powell put up a saw-mill on Tiderishi Creek on the site of Willow Creek Station in Section 5. It was operated for many years. Isaac Smith built a saw-mill on Eagle Creek, close to his residence, in 1852, which was running till 1876, his sons taking charge of it at his death in 1869. Some three years ago Jacob B. Smith put up a steam saw-mill a short distance southwest of the old site, which he now operates. A steam saw-mill was built by the Blymyers on the Lima road in Section 8, many years ago, and is still carried on by one of that family. In 1860 Henry and Albert Shank and Augustus Sheffield erected a steam saw-mill on the corner of Mr. Shank's farm in Section 1, which ran till a couple of years ago. G. W. Rinehart had a saw-mill on his farm, but it, too, has ceased operations. Doubtless other small saw-mills have been owned and operated in this township, but the foregoing are those best known and remembered.

Early Education.—In 1834 the first schoolhouse in the township, a small log building, was put up near Eagle Creek, John D. Bishop, Benjamin O. Whitman, Coonrad Line, Jacob Sharp, Amos Crum and some of the Woodruffs being the principal movers in the enterprise. They engaged Miss Rachel McBride to teach, and throughout the winter of 1834–35, the few children of this locality tramped through the snow-covered forest to this primitive building. In 1838 another small schoolhouse was built on the corner of Jacob Powell's farm; and a year or two afterward a school building was erected on Section 15. The township had now three schoolhouses, and in a few years others made their appearance. These rude log structures soon gave way to frames, and to-day Eagle Township contains nine first class brick schoolhouses, not surpassed by those in any other township of the county, while the standing of the schools is excellent.

Religious Societies.—Though religious services were held quite early in this township, no organization was effected for about ten years after the first settler built his cabin on Eagle Creek. A society of the Evangelical Association was then organized in the Powell Settlement by Jacob, John, Henry and Samuel Powell and their wives, Peter and Jacob Feller and wives, and perhaps a few others. They erected a church on the farm of Jacob Powell. It was constructed of planks placed upright, and then weather-boarded. In

1875 it was superseded by the present brick building. The old structure is now doing service as an outhouse on the farm of Mr. Jacob Powell. A class of the Methodist Episcopal denomination was organized at the house of Joseph D. Keller, by Rev. Wesley J. Wells, about 1845. The seven organizers were Joseph D. Keller and wife, Joseph Oman and wife, Polly Houdeshell, Margaret Harris and Ara Rinehart. In 1851 a frame church was built on the farm of Mr. Keller, which served the congregation until the erection of the present handsome brick structure in 1872. The third church building was erected by the United Brethren society on Section 26, in 1854, on the farm of Adam Woodruff. This society was organized a few years before, Mrs. Coonrad Line, Isaac Decker and wife and some of the Woodruffs being among its principal supporters. Their first church was a small hewed-log building, which after about ten years was succeeded by "Pleasant Grove" Church, erected on Section 13. The Lutherans also organized a society and put up a church about the same time as the Methodists and United Brethren. Two other societies have been organized and buildings erected, viz.: the German Reformed and Methodist Episcopal Churches, near the center of the township, but neither has been used for some time, and both societies are doubtless extinct.

Justices.—The following justices of the peace have served the people of Eagle Township since its organization: Benjamin O. Whitman, Jacob Powell, William Williamson, Jacob Miller, W. W. Hughes, John Miller, Henry Bishop, John Swank, Peter Bender, John Wise, John Croft, Abraham Keel, Peter H. Powell, L. W. Scothorn and Jacob B. Smith. The last mentioned and Peter H. Powell are the present incumbents of the office.

Towns and Postoffices.—This is purely an agricultural township, possessing neither village nor hamlet, though an attempt at "town making" was undertaken nearly fifty years ago. On the 30th of September, 1836, Martin Hollabaugh, who had settled in the southeast corner of Eagle the year previous, laid out a village on the southeast quarter of Section 36, Eagle Township, and the southwest quarter of Section 31, Jackson Township, which he recorded as Martins Town. He opened a general store, which he carried on till his death in 1837. If he had lived, a small town might have sprung up here, but his death destroyed all such prospects, and Martins Town never emerged from its shell.

Clements postoffice was established at the house of Amos Crum, on Section 13, in 1845, with Mr. Crum as postmaster. Upon his death Mrs. Crum attended to the office, and she was succeeded by John Crossly, of Jackson Township, to whose house the office was removed. Noah Sherrick, of Jackson, succeeded Crossly, and in 1858, John Swank, of Eagle, became postmaster. In 1862 he moved across the road into Jackson Township and held the office until its discontinuance in 1866.

The Lake Erie & Western Railroad crosses the northeast corner of the township, and Willow Creek is a flag station located on Section 5, for the accommodation of that neighborhood. The township possesses no other railroad facilities, though Findlay, Rawson, Mt. Cory, Jenera and Arlington are within easy communication for shipping purposes. There is, perhaps, no township in Hancock County that excels Eagle in improvements and general appearances. Fine houses and barns greet the eye on every section, while there is not a foot of land but what is rich and subject to cultivation. Nature has done much for this part of the county, but the energy and enterprise of its citizens have in a great measure improved nature's handiwork.

CHAPTER XVII.

JACKSON TOWNSHIP.

ERECTION OF THE TOWNSHIP AND ORIGIN OF ITS NAME—AREA, BOUNDARIES AND POPULATION—DRAINAGE AND SOIL—FIRST SETTLERS—GOING TO MILL—JUSTICES—SCHOOLS—CHURCHES—TOWNS AND POSTOFFICES.

JACKSON was one of the earliest settled townships of Hancock County, and the fifth erected and organized. On the 7th of December, 1829, certain residents of Amanda and Delaware Townships petitioned the board of commissioners to erect Township 1 south, Range 11, into a new political subdivision to be named Jackson, which request was accordingly granted. The name was chosen in honor of Gen. Andrew Jackson, elected the previous year to the Presidency, who had many warm admirers in this part of the county. No change occurred in its territory till March 5, 1845, when the commissioners ordered the eastern tier of sections, from 1 to 36 inclusive, to be attached to Amanda. Since that time Jackson has contained thirty sections, or an area of 19,200 acres. It is bounded on the north by Findlay and Marion Townships, on the east by Amanda, on the south by Delaware and Madison, and on the west by Eagle. In 1840 its population was 631; 1850, 830; 1860, 1,272; 1870, 1,209, and 1880, 1,338, or more than 44 inhabitants to the square mile.

The Blanchard River enters the southeast corner of the township on Section 35, thence passes northeastward into Amanda, and meandering up the western side of that subdivision, crosses back into Jackson near its northeast corner. It thus assists in draining the eastern side of this township. Lye Creek rises in Madison Township, enters Jackson on Section 32, and, winding in a general northeast direction, strikes the northern line on Section 3; thence turns to the northwest, and passing onward empties into the Blanchard a short distance east of Findlay. A small run flows into Lye Creek from the southeast, affording good surface drainage between that stream and the Blanchard. The western part of Jackson drains mainly into Eagle Creek, which flows northward along the eastern side of Eagle Township. Good water is readily found in every part of this subdivision. The timber in Jackson is generally the same as found in other portions of the county, differing only as to the amount of each particular kind. Along the streams the soil is a vegetable loam, mixed with alluvial deposits; while away from the water courses it is a clay and sandy loam soil, with a gravel mixture in some places. Taking it as a whole, the soil of Jackson will compare favorably with the surrounding townships.

First Settlers.—On the 21st of November, 1823, Peter George, the "pioneer land hunter," entered the east half of the northeast quarter of Section 35, which was the first entry made in the township. He, however, became a settler of Amanda. William J. Greer entered the east half of the southeast quarter of the same section, adjoining George's entry on the south,

December 10, 1823, but he subsequently settled in Delaware Township. The next entry was made by Mordecai Hammond May 30, 1827. He took up the west half of the northeast quarter and the west half of the southeast quarter of Section 35, upon which he located the following autumn, and was therefore the first settler of Jackson Township. Mr. Hammond was born in Maryland April 27, 1791, removed to York County, Penn., and there married Zilla Gilbert, a native of that State, and in 1826 located in Pickaway County, Ohio. In the fall of 1827, with his brother-in-law, Aquilla Gilbert, he left Pickaway County and took up his abode on the east bank of the Blanchard, in Section 35. In April, 1828, he took part in the first county election of Hancock, and in October, 1829, was elected county commissioner, and served one term. In 1842 Mr. Hammond was appointed associate judge, which position he filled seven years. Nine children were born to him, of whom six survive, and four reside in this county. Judge Hammond died on the old homestead in Section 35, February 25, 1855, his widow surviving him nearly twenty-two years, dying February 4, 1877, in the eightieth year of her age. Throughout his residence in this township, Judge Hammond was regarded as an upright, worthy man, and one of the leading citizens of his adopted county.

Alpheus Ralston is believed to have been the next to locate in this subdivision. In September, 1829, he entered the southwest quarter of Section 7, upon which he settled permanently in October, 1830, where he has ever since resided. He is a native of Rockingham County, Va., born in June, 1801, whence he removed with his parents to Wood County of that State. In 1826 he came to Pickaway County, Ohio, where he soon afterward married Miss Elizabeth Williamson, sister of Mrs. Thomas Thompson, whose husband was the first settler of Amanda Township. After a residence of some four years in Pickaway County, Mr. Ralston, with his wife and two children, removed to the farm, upon which he has spent fifty-five years of his life. His cabin was at that time in the heart of a wilderness; a rude wagon track led through the forest to Findlay, and his nearest neighbors were about three miles distant. His first wife dying he married her sister, Julia A. Williamson, who yet survives. Eight children were born to him, four of whom are living. Mr. Ralston is now the oldest surviving pioneer of Jackson Township.

In 1831 Henry and Jacob Cooper, with their mother and one sister, came from Fairfield County, Ohio, and built a cabin in Section 14. Henry was but fourteen years old, when his father died and the care of the family largely devolved upon him. As an illustration of some of the hardships undergone by the pioneers, the following was often related by Mr. Cooper during his life-time. Soon after settling in this county, he started one morning on a trip to Findlay, with William Ebright and son, Philip. The ground was covered with snow, and the journey was made in a sled. They had to cut out a road with their axes as they went along, and by hard work were thus enabled to reach the cabin of Michael Myers, in Section 28, Marion Township, about dark. Here they spent the night sleeping on the clay floor of Myers' cabin, and the next morning resumed their journey to Findlay, where they arrived before noon, the whole distance traveled being only about seven miles. Henry Cooper married a sister of Nutter Powell, and both died on the old homstead. Jacob removed to Indiana.

The Williamsons came to the township in 1831, from Pickaway County,

Ohio. Aaron settled in Section 6, where both he and his wife, Margaret, resided till death. Five of their children are residents of the county. Levi and his mother located in Section 18, immediately south of Mr. Ralston, his brother-in-law, but subsequently removed across the road into Eagle Township. The mother died here, and in 1857 he sold out and went to Iowa.

During the succeeding four years Jackson Township received several families, viz.: the Tisdalls, Hemrys, Petermans, Hoys, Biblers, Newells and Bears. Mrs. Tisdall, with her sons, James and Lucian, settled in Section 18 in 1832–33, but in a few years removed from the county. Henry Hemry, with his wife, Sarah, and eight children, some of whom were full grown, settled in Section 3 in the spring of 1834. He was a native of Virginia, and removed to Carroll County, Ohio, where he married and lived until his coming to Hancock. He accumulated a large amount of land in this county, though he died about five years after settling on Lye Creek. Six of his children are residents of Hancock County. John and Mary A. Peterman came from Holmes County, Ohio, in 1834, and built their cabin in the southwest quarter of Section 8, where he died in 1862. Three of his sons live in this township. Abraham Hoy settled in Section 21, but died in Findlay. Abraham and Elizabeth Bibler came here from Fairfield County, Ohio, in 1835, their son, David, having preceded them the previous year. They settled in Section 17, where the parents died. Two of the sons, John and David, are leading citizens of Jackson. William Newell, a son-in-law of Abraham Bibler, came the same time, and also settled in Section 17. The family removed to Putnam County, Ohio, some years ago. William was an elder brother of Joseph and James Newell, who came later. Samuel Bear, of York County, Penn., located east of the Biblers, and both he and his wife died upon the farm, which they settled. Mrs. John C. Hayes, of Jackson, is one of their children. Other settlers of this period were Rufus Bennett in Section 10, in 1834; Simeon Butler in the same section, in 1835; and the Maphets in Section 9 during the latter year, all of whom are well remembered.

In the spring of 1836, Levi and Eli Sampson, natives of Baltimore County, Md., came from Richland County, Ohio, and settled in Sections 22 and 23, respectively, erecting their cabins across the road from each other. In 1851 Levi was appointed associate judge, which position he held until the spring of 1852, when, under the operation of the new constitution, the office was abolished. Judge Sampson possessed a very limited education, but he had a great deal of strong common sense and practical experience. He was a genial, whole-souled man, familiarly called "Sunny" Sampson, synonymous with that warm friendly good nature, which he always exhibited. At the time of his death, March 13, 1879, Judge Sampson was regarded as one of the wealthy farmers of the county. Eli resided on his farm till 1876, when he removed to Mt. Blanchard, where he is at present living.

James Newell, with his mother, Barbara, and three sisters, Sarah, Elizabeth and Salome, settled in the township in 1835. The parents removed from Shenandoah County, Va., to Fairfield County, Ohio, when the sons were quite small, where both grew to manhood. Joseph and his wife came to the township a short time after James and the rest of the family, William having also settled here in 1835. James and Joseph located on adjoining farms in Section 8. The Newells were among the first Methodists of this part of the county, and were prominent in organizing the Methodist Episcopal Church of their neighborhood, the first building being erected on

land donated by Joseph for that purpose. The mother died here and James and family left the county prior to the late war. Joseph married Barbara, a daughter of Abraham Bibler, raised a family of seven children and still lives on a part of the old homestead.

In 1836 and 1837, James Shelden, Jacob F. Houck, William Harris and John Orwick settled in the township. Mr. Shelden, his wife, Mary, and seven children came here from Belmont County, Ohio, in the fall of 1836 and built their cabin in the south part of Section 23. The parents, who were Pennsylvanians, died on the old farm, but some of their children are residents of the county. Jacob F. and Eva Houck, natives of Baltimore County, Md., settled in Section 27. In 1853 he laid out North Liberty, which is better known as Houcktown. William and Nancy Harris came from Columbiana County, Ohio, about 1836, and both spent their lives in this township. Several of their descendants reside in Delaware Township, where their son, Jacob, died in 1880. John and Margaret Orwick and family, natives of Pennsylvania, came to Hancock County in the fall of 1835, and in 1837 located southwest of the site of Houcktown. Mrs. Orwick died in 1840, and he afterward married a Mrs. Franklin, and died in this township. Two sons, Jacob and George, and two daughters, Mrs. David Bibler and Mrs. John Russell, are residents of Jackson. Some other settlers, doubtless, came in during the ten years from 1827 to 1837, among whom were John Treese, Benjamin Wiseman, John, Henry and Sylvester Bell, Reuben Fabun, Hathaway R. Warner and Thomas Marlow; but our list embraces those best remembered by the few living pioneers left to tell the tale of early settlements made in the forest of what is now Jackson Township.

Going to Mill.—The territory now embraced in Jackson Township has never possessed a grist-mill, and the settlers had to go to Wolford's mill in Delaware Township, Campbell's (now Carlin's) mill at Findlay, Bishop's mill in Eagle Township, or Misamore's mill in Amanda, to get their grinding done; while some patronized mills located outside the county. Prior to 1845 Misamore's mill was in this township, but in that year the eastern tier of sections was attached to Amanda, and thus Jackson lost the mill. Aquilla Gilbert says: "The first hand-mill in the southern part of the county was owned by Godfrey Wolford, of Delaware Township, and Judge Hammond (with whom I resided throughout the winter of 1828–29), and I used to go to Wolford's three times a week to grind corn meal—the only sort of grain we then possessed." The present generation can scarcely realize the great boon a neighborhood mill was fifty years ago. In fact, a settler who came in and erected a grist-mill was looked upon as a benefactor. But those days of privation have long since passed away never to return, and good mills and good flour are plentiful.

Justices.—Aquilla Gilbert, the first justice of Jackson, was thrown into Amanda Township in 1845, and a sketch of him will be found at page 359. His successors have been George Henry, Joseph Twining, Arthur Russell, Charles O. Mann, John Teems, Andrew W. Houck, D. W. Engle, Joseph S. Struble, James Waltermire, Henry Bowers, Thomas Waltermire, Eli J. Shelden, Israel Sampson, John C. Hayes and Henry Bowers.

Schools.—In the fall of 1832, a few settlers living along the Blanchard in Jackson and Amanda Townships, erected a log schoolhouse in Section 13, on the east bank of the Blanchard, then in Jackson Township, and employed

Aquilla Gilbert to teach throughout the winter of 1832–33. "I was paid," says Mr. Gilbert, "by a voluntary quarterly subscription at $1.50 per scholar, and I boarded at home. The children came from both Jackson and Amanda, as the country was very sparsely settled." In 1834–35 a school was taught by Nancy Burns at the house of Alpheus Ralston, which was the first in the township west of the Blanchard. The Ralstons, Petermans, Crums and Williamsons attended here. A log schoolhouse was built on Mr. Ralston's farm in the fall of 1835–36, and a school was afterward taught here by Miss Julia Parker. Their second teacher was Miss Jane Wilson, and the children of the surrounding settlers patronized this pioneer institution. Such was the beginning of education in the township, which now contains nine good schoolhouses, wherein the children of both rich and poor may receive a fair English education.

Churches.—In 1835–36 a class of the Methodist Episcopal Church was organized in the northwest corner of the township, the Newells being the prime movers in this good work. For a few years the society met at private houses and the old log schoolhouse, and then erected a building in the southwest corner of Joseph Newell's farm. This was the first church building in the township, and served the congregation for many years, when it was succeeded by the present structure, half a mile north of the old site. With the passing years the Methodist Protestant, United Brethren and Baptist denominations organized classes, each of which have a church in Jackson Township. That of the United Brethren stands in Section 14, the Baptist in Section 20 and the Methodist Protestant in Section 23. During the political excitement of the war, the Methodists became divided, and to harmonize the two elements the Christian Union Church was afterward organized, and a building erected in Section 30, near the west line of the township. The Methodist Episcopal denomination has two church buildings in Jackson Township, and is quite strong in numbers.

Towns and Postoffices.—Martins Town was laid out by Martin Hollabaugh, September 30, 1836, in the southwest quarter of Section 31, extending across the range line into the southeast quarter of Section 36, Eagle Township, where Mr. Hollabaugh lived. Nothing ever came of this first attempt at town building, and the recorded plat is all that remains to show that such place was ever contemplated. Early in 1838 a postoffice called Martins Town was established at the house of Hathaway R. Warner, in Section 31, on the Bellefontaine road. Mr. Warner was postmaster till 1846, when the office was removed to Arlington.

April 20, 1853, Jacob F. Houck laid out fifteen lots in the northwest corner of Section 27, which he recorded as North Liberty. Two additions have since been made to the plat. About three years after the town was laid out a postoffice named Houcktown was established here, with Robert Davidson as postmaster, and the village thus began to be called Houcktown, by which it is most familiarly known. Mr. Davidson's successors have been as follows: J. K. Babcock, John Garst, Israel Sampson, Eli Gorsuch, John Ebaugh, David Beagle and H. L. Hatcher. Though located in the center of a rich agricultural district, North Liberty has never made much progress. Its business interests consist of one general store, a grocery store, a saw and shingle-mill, a wagon factory, a blacksmith shop, a shoe shop and one physician. There are also a schoolhouse and a church within its limits. The official census of 1880 gave the village a population of 112, and there has been since no perceptible increase.

Clements postoffice, established at the house of Amos Crum in Eagle Township in 1845, was upon Mr. Crum's death attended to by his widow. John Crossly and Noah Sherrick, both of Jackson Township, were the next postmasters, and in 1858 John Swank of Eagle Township got the office. In 1862 he removed across the Bellefontaine road into Jackson, and held the office till 1866, when it was abolished. Another office named "Swank," was established at Mr. Swank's store in 1882, but was discontinued in December, 1884, as most of the farmers in that vicinity perferred to go to Findlay for their mail.

Ewing's Corners was another postoffice that once existed in this township. It was established in 1863, at the house of Jesse Ewing, in Section 15, northeast of Houcktown. Mr. Ewing died in the fall of 1872, and was succeeded by S. S. Huffman who held the office until it was abolished. Though such free offices as those mentioned were for the time an accommodation to the neighborhoods in which they existed, yet their absence is now little felt, and their discontinuance not much regretted.

CHAPTER XVIII.

LIBERTY TOWNSHIP.

ERECTION OF OLD TOWN AND THE TROUBLE WHICH AROSE THEREFROM—LIBERTY ERECTED, AND FIRST ELECTION FOR JUSTICE OF THE PEACE HELD IN THE TOWNSHIP—CHANGES IN ITS TERRITORY, AREA, BOUNDARIES AND POPULATION BY DECADES—STREAMS AND RUNS—TOPOGRAPHY AND SOIL—INDIAN GREEN, CEMETERY AND PLUM ORCHARD—FIRST SETTLERS—FIRST MARRIAGE AND BIRTH—JUSTICES—MILLS—EARLY SCHOOLS—RELIGIOUS SOCIETIES—ALBA POSTOFFICE—CEMETERIES.

FROM the erection of Findlay Township as a subdivision of Wood County, in 1823, up to September 17, 1829, the territory now composing Liberty formed a part of that township; but on the latter date the following erection was made by the board of commissioners: "At a special meeting of the commissioners of Hancock County, John Long and John P. Hamilton, present, Charles McKinnis, absent, a petition being presented to said board from sundry citizens of Findlay Township, praying for a division to take place in said township in the following manner, to wit.: Making the section line between the first and second tiers of sections on the east side of Range 10 the division line, which was accordingly agreed to by said board; and ordered that all that part of Findlay Township west of the aforesaid line shall be made a separate township, and shall be designated and known by the name of Old Town." The township was so named in honor of a Wyandot village that once existed on the north bank of the Blanchard, in Section 7, traces of which were plainly visible during the early years of the county's history. Old Town extended from the section line one mile west of the Bellefontaine road to the western boundaries of the county, and from Wood County on the north to Hardin County on the south, thus embracing nearly one-half of the county. The act of erection gave offense to



E. P. Cummings



many of the inhabitants thus cut off from Findlay, and especially to Charles McKinnis, the absent member of the board, who, regarding the act as sharp practice, and without waiting to investigate the facts, looked up Hamilton, one of the commissioners who had passed the act, and vigorously assaulted him. His brother, Philip McKinnis, hearing of the fight, also sought Hamilton and repeated the assault. The latter, not being their equal in physical strength was a very badly whipped man. He afterward sued the McKinnis brothers for damages, and recovered $75 from Charles and $30 from Philip, together with costs. They were also indicted by the grand jury for assault and battery, pleaded guilty before the court and were each fined $1 and costs of prosecution.

In April, 1830, Joshua Hedges and others brought suit against the board of commissioners to have the act of erection set aside because of error in the proceedings, but the case was continued until the next term; and the court ordered an election for a justice of the peace for Old Town Township, to be held at the house of Ebenezer Wilson, on the last Saturday in June, 1830, which was accordingly done. June 7, 1830, John P. Hamilton, Mordecai Hammond and Charles McKinnis, then commissioners of Hancock County, made the following decision confirmatory of the original erection of Old Town: "It is ordered by the commissioners of this session that a decision of the commissioners in the division of Findlay Township which took place in 1829, is confirmed and established." This, however, proved of little avail, as the court of common pleas, at the succeeding November session, reversed and annulled the acts of the commissioners in the erection and organization of Old Town Township, and it thus ceased to exist as a subdivision of Hancock County.

On the 6th of December, 1830, all of the territory lying between the present western boundary of Findlay Township and the Putnam County line, and extending from Wood to Hardin County, was erected as Liberty Township. This was only one row of sections narrower than Old Town, and embraced the present townships of Pleasant, Portage, Blanchard, Liberty, Union, Orange, Van Buren and three-fourths of Eagle. The following March the lands now composing Blanchard, Eagle, Van Buren and the west half of Madison were cut off; and on the 21st of June, 1831, the first election for justice of the peace was held in Liberty. William Wade, George Chase and Moses Predmore were the judges, and Amos Bonham and Joshua Jones, clerks. The voters were John Fishel, John Magee, John Travis, John J. Hendricks, John Fishel, Jr., William Wade, Meredith Parrish, Moses Predmore, George Chase, Nathan Frakes, Joshua Jones, James Caton, James McCormick, Amos Bonham, Addison Hampton, Zebulon Lee, John Mullen, William Wade, Alfred Hampton, Ebenezer Wilson, Charles Jones, Jacob Poe, James McKinnis, Robert McKinnis, Charles McKinnis and Philip McKinnis, total, 26. Benjamin Cummins received every vote cast and was declared elected. Of these twenty-six voters, Zebulon Lee, of Orange Township, and Alfred Hampton, of Findlay, are the only survivors living in this county.

In 1832 the territory embraced in Union and Orange Townships was taken off of Liberty, in 1833, Portage, and in 1834, Pleasant, leaving the boundaries of Liberty as they are to-day. It contains twenty-four sections of land, all lying in Township 1 north, Range 10, or an area of 15,360 acres. Liberty is bounded on the north by Portage Township, on the east by Findlay, on

the south by Eagle, and on the west by Blanchard. In 1840 it contained a population of 592; 1850, 874; 1860, 1,050; 1870, 1,011 and 1880, 1,101.

The township is thoroughly drained by the Blanchard River and its several small tributaries, the bed of the river forming a valley into which the surface waters descend, from both the north and south. The Blanchard enters the township on the southeast quarter of Section 10, and flowing westward, with many crooks and turns, leaves Liberty near the northwest corner of Section 18. Comer's Run, named after Isaac Comer, one of the pioneers who settled upon its banks, rises in Eagle Township, flows northwestward, and discharges its waters into the Blanchard on the northeast quarter of Section 17. A branch of this run heads in the southwest corner of Section 31, and passing northeastward unites with Comer's in the southeast corner of Section 21. Another small run drains the western central sections of the township, and, passing into Blanchard Township, strikes the river on Section 14, of that subdivision. Four small runs flow into the Blanchard from the north: Watson's, originally called Gardner's, Wilson's, McKinnis' and Grassy. Watson's or Gardner's Run, named after John Gardner and Richard Watson, who successively occupied the same farm, heads in Portage Township, and waters the northeast corner of Liberty, emptying into the Blanchard on Section 10. Wilson's Run also rises in Portage, and flows southward a short distance west of Watson's, striking the river on Section 15. This branch was named after Judge Ebenezer Wilson, a leading pioneer who settled and lived upon it till his death. McKinnis' Run heads on Section 4 and strikes the Blanchard on Section 8. Philip McKinnis took up his residence on this run in 1827: hence the name. Grassy Run is about a mile still farther west, and was so named because of its grass-covered banks. Though Comer's Run once furnished power for a saw-mill, none of these runs are now sufficiently large to be utilized in that manner, and are only important as sources of drainage and for the use of stock, several springs along the larger ones supplying water throughout the year.

Excepting the river bottoms, the surface in the north part of this township may be termed rolling, though an occasional strip of level land is seen at intervals. A narrow sand ridge crosses the township south of the Blanchard in a southwest direction, and except along Comer's Run, where it is somewhat broken, and a small branch still farther west, where the surface is rolling, the lands on each side of the ridge are generally level, and fall off toward the north and south in a gentle slope. A heavy forest once covered this whole region, but most of the valuable timber has long since disappeared before the merciless "clearing up" mania of past years. There was a small clearing, covering about twelve acres, on the north bank of the Blanchard in Section 7, when the McKinnis family settled in the township, which is believed to have been the site of an Indian village, and this was the only tract not covered by the original forest. The soil in the lower valleys along the Blanchard is a sandy alluvial deposit, made by the overflows of the river, and is regarded as very valuable corn land. Back from the river on the "second bottom" and level lands a sandy loam is found, which on reaching the highlands changes to a clay formation with a sand and gravel mixture, though north of the Blanchard a clay soil predominates. The ridge south of the river is purely a sand formation.

The writer learns from Nelson Poe and William H. Fountain, that when the

first settlers came into Liberty Township they found a tract of cleared land, covering about twelve acres, on the north bank of the Blanchard in Section 7, some of which had apparently been under cultivation, and was called by the pioneers "Indian Green." An Indian graveyard was located here, and also an orchard of plum trees, which supplied the neighbors with that fruit. Several pioneers have stated it was the general impression among the first settlers that an Indian village once flourished at this point. The Ottawas had two villages still farther down the river, in what is now Putnam County, and it is believed the Wyandots had a settlement at Indian Green, whence they removed, in 1818, to Big Spring Reservation. It is a well attested fact that the Indians occasionally visited the old burying-ground, and guarded the remains of their ancestors buried here with jealous care. Mr. Poe says his father told him that a pioneer named Ellison settled with his family on this tract at an early day, and after building a cabin began the work of opening the graves for the purpose of obtaining the valuables supposed to be buried with the Indian dead. The Indians soon heard of this desecration, and at once visited Ellison, and so thoroughly frightened him by threats of retaliation that he deserted his cabin and "silently stole away." The wagon road along the north bank of the river passes through this old Indian cemetery, no trace of which now remains.

First Settlers.—This township was one of the earliest settled portions of Hancock County. Sixty-four years ago Robert McKinnis, with his wife, Betsy, and seven children, viz.: Charles, James, Philip, John, Sarah, Rachel and Eliza, settled on the Blanchard in Section 7. Mr. McKinnis was a native of Butler County, Penn., whither his parents had emigrated from Ireland. He grew to manhood and married in his native county, thence removed to Ross County, Ohio, coming to Hancock in the spring of 1822. He built his cabin on the south bank of the Blanchard in Section 7, the farm now owned by Oliver P. Shaw. Here he began to make for himself a home in the wilderness. Charles, his only son then married, settling across the river on the same section. At the first election held in Findlay Township (then embracing the whole county), July 1, 1823, when thirteen votes were cast, he was elected justice of the peace, Wilson Vance being the other justice chosen at that election. On the 5th of April, 1824, he was elected overseer of the poor, this being the second election in what is now Hancock County. In March, 1828, Mr. McKinnis was chosen by the General Assembly one of the associate judges of Hancock County, and served in that capacity seven years. Judge McKinnis possessed a fair education and good executive ability, and was well qualified for such official positions as he filled in this county. On the 2d of September, 1824, his daughter, Rachel, was married, by Wilson Vance, justice of the peace, to Samuel Kepler, who lived on the Maumee, this being the first marriage in the county. His daughters Sarah and Eliza were afterward married to John Fishel and John Magee, respectively, and about 1851 removed with their husbands to Iowa. Judge McKinnis was frank, genial and generous, possessing that friendly nature so characteristic of the Irish race. His wife died in this township in 1845, and about 1851 he removed to Iowa, where he spent the remainder of his days, dying August 22, 1863, aged over eighty-six years.

Charles McKinnis was born in Pennsylvania, and married Miss Mary Vail, a native of Virginia, in Ross County, Ohio. In December, 1821, he and his father entered land on Section 7, Liberty Township, and in the

spring of 1822 settled permanently. Charles built his cabin on the west half of the northwest quarter of Section 7, across the river from his father, where his son, Robert, was born in the summer of 1825—one of the earliest births in the county. On the first tax levy of Findlay Township, taken in 1824, Charles McKinnis is assessed for two horses and four head of cattle, so that he must have been in better circumstances than the average pioneer of that date. In October, 1828, Mr. McKinnis was elected county commissioner, and re-elected in 1830. His children were Robert, Thomas, John, Philip, Elizabeth and Mary, all of whom were born in the township, and here grew to maturity. Mr. McKinnis, who was known as one of the "best men" of his day, died November 21, 1864, upon the old homestead in this township, where the widow of his son, Philip, now resides. His widow survived him till September 11, 1869. Thomas and John live across the township line in Blanchard Township on a portion of their father's estate, while Robert died in 1858.

Philip McKinnis, also a native of Pennsylvania, was in his twenty-second year when the family settled on the Blanchard. In April, 1824, he was elected constable of Findlay Township; and on the first tax duplicate, made that year, he is assessed for one horse and six head of cattle, a fair evidence of his prosperous condition. He lived with his parents until his marriage with Miss Susannah Dukes, sister of Lewis Dukes, Sr., by Joshua Hedges, justice of the peace, December 20, 1827, when he and his wife took possession of a cabin, which he had previously erected on the east half of the northeast quarter of Section 8. He did not enter this tract, however, till April 7, 1831. To this union were born eleven children, nine of whom survive, but none are residents of this county. In 1855 Mr. McKinnis removed to Putnam County, Ohio, where he died August 18, 1866, and his widow August 3, 1868. He was a plain, uneducated pioneer, possessing a good deal of strong common sense, which carried him successfully through the many trials and hardships of forest life, but "would fight at the drop of a hat," and seldom met his match. Industry, honesty and punctuality were three of the most striking traits of his character, never turning aside from the faithful performance of what he regarded as his duty.

James and John McKinnis were also single men when the family came from Ross County. The former married Lucy Wickham, daughter of John C. Wickham, a pioneer of Findlay, and settled immediately east of his father, on the farm now owned by Solomon B. Swartz. He resided here until his removal to Iowa about 1851. John married Miss Sarah Hartley, of Findlay Township, and located on a part of his father's farm, but he, too, went West, locating first in Indiana, thence removing to Kansas.

In December, 1822, Jacob Poe and his wife, Nancy, and four children, Elizabeth, John, Robert and Nelson, came from Ross County, Ohio, and settled on the west part of the southwest quarter of Section 8, on the north bank of the Blanchard, which land he had entered the previous May. Jacob Poe was of German extraction, and a distant relative of those historic characters famed in frontier story, Adam and Andrew Poe. He married Nancy, eldest daughter of Robert McKinnis, in Ross County, Ohio, and followed his father-in-law to Hancock County. Six children were born to him, after settling in this township, viz.: George L., Rachel, James, Margaret, Nancy and Jacob, and of the ten, six survive. George L., now a resident of Findlay, is believed to have been the first white child born in the township

and the second male in the county, his birth occurring in November, 1824. In April, 1824, Mr. Poe was elected one of the three trustees of Findlay Township, and was also one of the judges at that election– the second held in what is now Hancock County. He was assessed in 1824 for one horse and five head of cattle. His son, Nelson, born in Ross County, September 4, 1822, occupies the old homestead, where he has lived more than sixty-three years, being only three months old when his parents settled on the Blanchard. He is thus the oldest surviving resident of the township, and there is but one other living citizen, viz., Job Chamberlin, of Findlay, who has resided longer in Hancock County, the latter having come with his parents to Findlay Township in February, 1822. Jacob Poe was one of those sturdy backwoodsmen whose industry, courage and perseverance have done so much toward converting the wild forest-covered lands of northwestern Ohio into fruitful fields studded with homes, the abodes of intelligence, comfort and plenty. He died on the old homestead May 28, 1856, his widow surviving him till November 27, 1862, leaving behind numerous descendants to perpetuate the memory of their plain but worthy lives.

John Gardner, known to the pioneers as "Big John" Gardner, settled on the north bank of the Blanchard in Section 10, in 1823. He was a cousin of John Gardner, Sr., of Findlay Township, and also his son-in-law, and came to the county about the same time. In the fall of 1828 he sold out to Addison Hampton, and soon afterward went to Indiana or Michigan. Joseph White came to the township the same year as Gardner, but in 1826 moved to Findlay. In 1824 he was assessed for two head of cattle, probably a yoke of oxen. He taught the first school in Findlay, in the winter of 1826–27, and left the county some time in the latter year.

Thomas and Rachel Wilson are believed to have settled on the east half of the southeast quarter of Section 9 in the spring of 1826, which he entered September 5, 1825. He was a native of Pennsylvania, but came here from Champaign County, Ohio, and died on his farm in 1828 (doubtless the first death in the township), leaving two children, Rebecca and Jane. The former married John Reed and the latter George L. Poe. The widow became the wife of John Travis, who came to the township a single man, about 1827. The family subsequently moved into Portage Township, where she died in 1852, and Mr. Travis in 1884.

Ebenezer Wilson, a brother of Thomas, was born in Pennsylvania, in 1799, and married Sally Davis, in Champaign County, Ohio. In January, 1826, with his wife and two children, he came to Findlay, and purchased and settled on the west half of the southwest quarter of Section 10, Liberty Township, entered by John Gardner in 1822. In March, 1828, he was appointed one of the associate judges of Hancock County, and in 1835 re-appointed for a second term, serving fourteen consecutive years in that capacity. Judge Wilson reared a family of nine children, seven of whom are living, and two—Joseph and Mrs. Rachel Cusac—are residents of the township. The parents died upon the old farm, the Judge July 4, 1866, and his widow June 20, 1877. Both were life-long Presbyterians. Judge Wilson was one of those solid, intelligent men who leave their stamp upon the surrounding community, and are kindly remembered when they pass from the busy scenes of life.

John Gardner, Jr., came to Findlay with his father in 1822. The latter entered the land in Section 10 upon which William C. Watson now lives,

May 9, 1822, and here John, Jr., subsequently settled. In 1824 he was assessed for one horse and three head of cattle; but it is not known whether he located on his land in this township prior to his marriage with Miss Susan Moreland, daughter of William Moreland, Sr., November 1, 1827, the ceremony being performed by William Hackney, justice of the peace. Mr. Moreland lived for a time with Gardner on this farm, and it is by some believed that the latter resided here prior to his marriage, or had at least built a cabin and made a clearing thereon. In 1829 Gardner went to Michigan, and two years afterward his land was sold by Joshua Hedges to Richard Watson.

Other settlers of this period were Robert McCullough, John and Michael Fishel, William Wade, Joshua Jones, John Travis and Addison and Alfred Hampton. McCullough was a native of Ireland, and a brother-in-law of Robert McKinnis. In the spring of 1826 he came from Ross County, Ohio, and "squatted" across the river from the latter. He was a large, muscular man, of great vitality and endurance, and, like the McKinnis boys, was regarded as one of the "best men" in the county. He never owned any land here, and in a few years removed to the Maumee, settling in what is now Defiance County.

John and Michael Fishel and two sisters settled on the east half of the southwest quarter of Section 9, in March, 1828, where they were joined by their father, John, and brother, Daniel, the following autumn. The same year John, Jr., married Sarah, daughter of Judge McKinnis, and about 1851 removed to Iowa. The father and Daniel both died in the township in 1849, the former being eighty-four years old at the time of his decease. In 1832 Michael got married, and in 1833 settled on Section 34, Blanchard Township, where he resided till 1876, when he removed to McComb, of which village he is still a resident.

William Wade and Joshua Jones, his son-in-law, settled on Section 9, in 1827, and after living here eight or ten years, sold out and removed into Union Township, where Wenman Wade resided, and afterward went to Indiana.

John Travis was a single man, and subsequently married Rachel, the widow of Thomas Wilson, for whom he had worked prior to his marriage. Her farm was the east half of the southeast quarter of Section 9, whence the family removed into Portage Township, where he died in 1884.

About this time Jeremiah Pressor, a free negro from Hardy County, Va., settled on the Blanchard. Jerry was a shiftless, good-natured old fellow, who did odd jobs of clearing for his white neighbors, but never owned any land. He finally removed with his family into Portage Township, where he passed the latter years of his simple, uneventful life.

Addison and Alfred Hampton were born in Virginia, whence they removed to Ross County, Ohio, where they respectively married Mary and Eleanor McCahan (sisters), also natives of the "old Dominion." In the fall of 1828 Addison and family came to this township, and located north of the river on Section 10. Alfred came out somewhat later, finally settling on Section 4. After a residence here of about five years, Addison removed to Fayette County, thence to Wood County, where some of his children yet reside. Alfred remained in Liberty until his removal to Findlay many years ago, where he and his wife are now spending the remaining years of their lives. They were married April 18, 1825, and in 1885 reached the

sixtieth anniversary of that event. Mr. and Mrs. Hampton are doubtless the oldest pioneer couple in Hancock County.

Johnson Bonham was a native of Virginia, born August 30, 1796. In August, 1828, he entered 160 acres north of the river on Section 10, and the following year began improving his land. He voted at the October election of 1829, and was doubtless living in the county a short time prior to that event. He came here with Robert L. Strother from Licking County, Ohio, into which he had removed from Muskingum County, and in 1834 was elected a justice of Liberty Township, and again in 1843. Mr. Bonhan died upon the old homestead, November 15, 1845. Five of his children are residents of the county—two sons and two daughters in Findlay Township, and one son in Portage.

The year 1830 brought into the township a large number of settlers. Nathan Frakes, John J. Hendricks, Amos Bonham, Zebulon B., Jonathan, Solomon, James and Stephen Lee, John Magee, Meredith Parrish, John Hubbs, Moses Predmore and James Caton, all came that year, but some of them had previously lived in other parts of the county.

Nathan Frakes settled in Allen Township in 1827, and in 1830 removed to Section 10, Liberty Township, now the site of the County Infirmary. His wife, Susannah, bore him a large family, some of whom are well remembered. In early life Frakes was a hard drinker and also a "bruiser," while his wife was a very ardent Methodist, and known as "an intelligent, earnest, praying woman." Nathan finally joined a temperance society and subsequently the church, and became a very worthy citizen. He died on his farm in this township early in 1835, and his widow married James Harkness. She and all the children went to Michigan many years ago. An account of Frakes' first settlement, near Van Buren, will be found in the sketch of Allen Township.

John J. Hendricks first settled in Amanda Township in 1826, and four years afterward removed to the east half of the southeast quarter of Section 8, this township, building his cabin on the north bank of the Blanchard. He entered this tract February 5, 1830. His wife, Eleanor F., was a native of Ireland, and a sister of Joseph C. Shannon, once auditor of the county. She was a very intelligent, well-read woman, thoroughly posted in the current topics of the day. Mr. Hendricks and family, after several years' residence here, sold out and went to Indiana.

Amos Bonham, a brother of Johnson, came from Muskingum County, Ohio, in 1830, and was one of the pioneer school teachers of the county. He was a bachelor and never had any permanent residence, but spent most of his time in Liberty and Findlay Townships, at the homes of his brothers, Johnson and Robert. He possessed a very fair education and was usually called upon to act as election clerk, as good penmen were then very scarce. He finally returned to his early home and there died.

Zebulon B., Jonathan, Solomon, James and Stephen Lee, came with their widowed mother, Sarah, from Franklin County, Ohio, in the spring of 1830, and settled in Sections 15 and 22, on the ridge road south of the Blanchard. The father, Jonathan, was a native of Wales, and the mother of Germany, and they were married in Pennsylvania, where some of the children were born. The family removed to Franklin County, Ohio, where the father died, and whence the widow and sons came to Hancock. The mother died at Benton, and Zebulon is the only one of the sons now residing in the

county, the others having moved away many years ago. After living in Liberty Township several years, Zebulon removed into Union and thence to Orange, where he is now living at the ripe old age of ninety years.

John Magee, a step-son of Meredith Parrish, married Eliza, daughter of Judge McKinnis, and settled on the east half of the northwest quarter of Section 9, which he entered June 1, 1829, and where they resided until their removal to Iowa about 1851. Meredith and Sarah Parrish located on the west half of the northeast quarter of the same section, entered August 21, 1829, and in 1834 sold out to John Fletcher and went to Putnam County. John Hubbs settled on the east half of the southeast quarter of Section 5, entered November 3, 1830, which land he sold to Daniel Cusac in 1839, and then moved to Indiana. Moses Predmore settled on Section 9, and James Caton on Section 8. Both sold their farms and went to Iowa. All of the foregoing came about 1830.

George Chase came to the township in 1830, and cleared five acres on the west half of the northwest quarter of Section 10, entered by him June 13, 1825, which he planted with corn. He returned to Madison County, Ohio, whither he and his wife, Elizabeth, had emigrated from New York State in 1817, and in the spring of 1831 brought out his family and settled permanently on his land. The mother died in 1832, leaving a family of five children, all of whom grew to maturity, but only three of the number are now living. The father died in 1869, and Justus now occupies the old farm on which he has lived since March, 1831; Mrs. Miles Wilson, of Portage Township, is the only member of the family, excepting Justus, living in this county.

William and Sarah Coen settled on Section 15, now known as the Sherrick farm, in 1830 or early the following year. Coen was one of the first active Presbyterians in the county, and assisted in organizing the first Presbyterian society in Findlay, and also the one subsequently organized in this township. His wife died here, and he was again married. The family left the county many years ago, and none of his children are now residents thereof.

Benjamin and Mary Cummins, natives of Kentucky, settled on the southwest quarter of Section 9, in 1830. In 1831 he was elected justice of the peace (being the first justice of the township), and re-elected in 1834. He soon afterward moved into Pleasant Township, where further mention of him will be found.

James McCormick came about the same time as Cummins, entering the north half of the northwest quarter of Section 9, November 24, 1830. He left the county at quite an early day.

Job Chamberlin, Sr., settled in Findlay Township in February, 1822, where his wife, Deborah, died January 8, 1829. In 1830 he married Miss Sarah Criner, and the following year removed to this township, settling on the northeast quarter of Section 7. He resided here till his death; he died September 4, 1847, in the seventy-fifth year of his age. His widow survived him until December 28, 1854. Mr. Chamberlin was one of the very earliest settlers of the county, and is more fully spoken of in the sketch of Findlay Township.

Henry Powell and Benjamin Mullen, and families, came into the township in 1831. Both were natives of Pennsylvania, whence they removed to Ohio, the former coming here from Fairfield, and the latter from Franklin County, Ohio. Mr. Powell settled on Section 27, where his daughter, Mrs.



Wm. B. Miller



Ann Preble, now lives, in the southeast part of the township, which he entered November 21, 1829. He was thrice married, and died upon the old homestead. The Mullens settled on Section 22, on the ridge road south of the Blanchard, and after a residence here of many years the parents removed to Benton, and died there. John, one of the sons, who came to the township in 1830, also died at Benton, while Thomas is now a resident of Findlay. Two of the daughters were married to Zebulon Lee and one to Jonathan Lee.

Richard Watson, a native of Maryland, with his wife and six children, came from Fairfield County, Ohio, in the summer of 1831, and rented the farm on Section 10, north of the Blanchard, previously improved by John Gardner, Jr., and William Moreland, Sr. He voted at the following October election, and in November, 1831, Mr. Watson purchased the Gardner farm of Joshua Hedges, agent for Mr. Gardner. Three children were born after settlement, and of the nine, four are yet living, residents of Hancock County. Mr. Watson died in 1848, and his widow in 1870. Both are buried on the old homestead, where they spent the declining years of their lives. William and George Watson, brothers of Richard, came after the latter. Both married here, and spent the balance of their lives in the township. George was drowned in the Blanchard, and William died upon his farm on Section 15. Four of William's children are residents of the county.

Abraham and Rebecca Beals, former a native of Maryland and latter of Pennsylvania, came from Stark County, Ohio, and settled on the east half of the southeast quarter of Section 3, which Mr. Beals entered April 17, 1832. They reared a family of thirteen children, eight of whom are yet living. Mr. Beals, who was a bricklayer, died in Portage Township, whither they had removed from Liberty, in 1855. His widow also died there. Many of their descendants live in the county.

William Fountain was a native of Caroline County, Md., of French ancestry, born January 6, 1784. In 1809 he married Sarah Barton, also a native of Maryland, who bore him five children, only two of whom survive. Mrs. Fountain died in 1821, and he took for his second wife Mrs. Rebecca Smith. In 1824 he removed to Franklin County, Ohio, and in October, 1832, came to Hancock, settling on the east half of the southwest quarter of Section 3, Liberty Township, which he entered October 23, 1830. Here his wife died in 1862, leaving a family of two sons and three daughters, all of whom are yet living. Mr. Fountain died upon his farm June 14, 1878, in his ninety-fifth year. This venerable patriarch was familiarly known as "old man Fountain," from the fact that he was the oldest person in the township for a long period prior to his decease. He was of a quiet, retiring disposition, and mixed very little in public affairs, devoting his attention almost wholly to his home and family.

John Boylan moved here from Licking County, Ohio, in 1832, and settled on Section 10. He was one of the pioneer school teachers of the township, and also a local preacher of the Methodist Episcopal Church. He was an uncle of D. B. Beardsley, Esq., a well known member of the Hancock County bar. Mr. Boylan moved into Blanchard Township, where he carried on a store for some time, and also served two terms as justice of the peace, subsequently removing to Indiana, and thence to Iowa. He was a very good man, but not a money-maker, and never accumulated much property while in this county.

Peter Treece and Isaac Comer settled here in 1832. The former was a native of Pennsylvania, but came to Hancock from Pickaway County, Ohio, settling in the south part of Liberty Township. Here he resided till his death, September 9, 1848, when his widow removed to Michigan. Isaac and Hannah Comer came from Fairfield County, Ohio, and located on the northeast quarter of Section 21, which he purchased of Robert L. Strother. Mr. Comer was a large, stout man, always in a happy mood, looking on the bright side of life, and strewing his pathway with kind words and generous acts. Comer's Run was named after him, his farm lying upon that stream. He was the father of one son, David, and seven daughters. David lives in Union Township, and some of the daughters also reside in the county. Mrs. Comer died March 21, 1851, and September 3, 1852, Mr. Comer joined her in the life beyond the grave.

James Jones and Allan McCahan moved into the township in the fall of 1833. Jones was a native of Pennsylvania, and his wife, Martha, of Maryland. They came here from Perry County, Ohio, and settled on Section 4, where both died, he in 1845, and she in 1866. They reared seven children, five of whom survive. Mrs. Justice Chase, of Liberty, and Mrs. Jacob Cooper, of Portage Townships, are two of their daughters. Allan McCahan was born in Virginia, and removed with his parents to Ross County, Ohio. He first visited Hancock in 1829, coming again in 1831, but did not settle permanently till the fall of 1833, when he and his family located on Section 4, Liberty Township. After some years he moved into Findlay Township, thence to Findlay, where he is now living, at the advanced age of eighty-three years.

In 1834 John Price, Samuel Powell, James Cooper and Barna Beardsley settled in the township. Mr. Price was a native of Pennsylvania but came here from Wayne County, Ohio, and located on the northwest quarter of Section 3, where both he and his wife, Sarah, died. He was a shoe maker by trade, and a straightforward, honest man, who despised trickery or meanness. His son Eli owns the old homestead, but lives across the line in Portage Township. Samuel and Sarah Powell moved here from Fairfield County, Ohio, and both died upon the homestead, the latter in 1852 and the former in 1868. They had a family of eight sons and four daughters, of whom eight survive. Andrew lives on the old home place in Section 27, entered by Mr. Powell in 1829, and George W. and Solomon across the line in Findlay Township. James Cooper, familiarly called "Little Jim," accompanied his brother John, from Perry County, Ohio, and settled on the northeast quarter of Section 5. He died on this farm, and his widow still resides upon it.

Barna Beardsley, a carpenter by trade, came from Licking County, Ohio, and with his wife, Mary, and seven children located north of the Blanchard on Section 10, where three children were born. He afterward moved into Findlay Township and bought a small farm. Here his wife died in 1847. He afterward married Mrs. Malinda V. Shannon, and died in 1881 in Putnam County. Elmus W. Beardsley, of Portage Township, and Daniel B. Beardsley, Esq., a lawyer of Findlay, are two of their seven surviving children, and the only members of the family in Hancock County.

Among other early settlers were Thomas Cook, Rev. George Van Eman, Robert Sherrard, Joseph Morrel, John Povenmire, John Smeltzer, Samuel Sager, Levi Taylor, Robert Barnhill, John Bergman, Henry Fry and Daniel

Cusac, all of whom came from 1834 to 1839. But the township was by this time pretty thickly settled, and the days of loneliness and isolation had passed away. These men, it is true, with many others who came with them, underwent some of the privations and hardships of pioneer life, but the hardest struggle was over ere their coming. Roads had been opened, mills and schools erected, and other concomitants of civilization had previously made their appearance in this portion of the county.

Justices.—The following citizens have filled this office since the organization of the township in 1831: Benjamin Cummins, Johnson Bonham, Levi Taylor, James H. Barr, Van Burton, Joshua Smith, William S. Burkhead, Aaron Hall, John Radebaugh, Thomas H. Taylor, Alexander Philips, John Hall, William H. Fountain, J. E. Dresbach, Joseph Wilson, John Reed, Henry Rudisill, R. W. Boyd, D. P. Haggerty and William Taylor.

Mills.—In 1832 John Byal erected a saw-mill on his farm in Section 11, Findlay Township, but in 1833 moved it across the line into Liberty. In 1834 he built a frame grist-mill close to the saw-mill, both standing on the south bank of the Blanchard and operated by water-power. This was one of the first frame mills erected in Hancock County, and is yet standing and in operation. A large wooden water wheel furnished the motive power during the earlier years of its history, and though the machinery was of the rudest sort in comparison with the mills of to-day, it nevertheless proved a great blessing to the struggling settlers for many miles around. Steam-power was put in a few years ago, and considerable grinding is still done in this old mill.

The next mill was built in 1844 by Miller Johnson, on Section 17, south of the river. It was first a saw-mill alone, but about ten years afterward a grist-mill was erected adjoining by Amos Hartman. These mills were finally burned down, and rebuilt by the Croningers, but were again destroyed by fire in June, 1881, and nothing but the blackened ruins now remain where they once stood. John Povenmire built a saw-mill in Section 21, on Comer's Run, which was operated several years, and no doubt other saw-mills have existed from time to time.

Early Schools.—It was not till 1832 that a schoolhouse made its appearance in this part of the county. A small log building was then put up on the southwest quarter of Section 9, and the first school was taught by Richard Wade. The McKinnises, Poes, Wilsons, Wades, Hamptons, Hendrickses, Fishels, Chases and Coens were the principal scholars when it first opened, though some other families may have sent children. Benjamin Cummins taught here quite early. Another schoolhouse was built and opened in the winter of 1833–34, near the east line of Section 10, north of the Blanchard. John Boylan was the first teacher, and the Chases, Bonhams, Watsons, Hamptons, Fountains, Hedgeses, Byals, Johnsons and Frakeses attended. A schoolhouse stood here for several years, the old round-log giving place to a hewed-log structure with plastered ceilings, which was regarded by the pioneer scholars as a very fine building—the most imposing some of them had ever seen. Other schools gradually made their appearance in different parts of the township, until all were supplied with some educational advantages. Liberty now contains seven school districts, and two parts of districts.

Religious Societies.—A class of the Methodist Episcopal denomination was organized at the house of Johnson Bonham as early as 1831. Among

the earliest members were Johnson Bonham and wife, Amos Bonham, Mrs. Meredith Parrish, Mrs. Addison Hampton, Nathan Frakes and wife, Mrs. William Fountain and Barna Beardsley and wife. The class was organized by Revs. Thomas Thompson and Elnathan C. Gavit. In 1851 this society built a frame church across the line in Findlay Township, which is still used by the Methodists of the neighborhood.

Rev. Peter Monfort, a Presbyterian preacher, organized a society of his faith in 1832, at the house of Ebenezer Wilson. Judge Wilson and wife, Jacob Poe and wife, William Coen, wife and two daughters, and Mrs. Robert McKinnis were among the little band who met at that time. This society was a branch of the Findlay Church, and first held services in private houses and occasionally at the old log schoolhouse on Section 9. In the summer of 1841 Rev. George Van Eman reorganized the church distinct from that at Findlay, and was the first regular minister thereof. In 1854 the society erected a frame building on the northwest quarter of Section 8, where worship has ever since been held. Other denominations organized societies at a later day. The United Brethren Church have two buildings in the township, one on Section 22 and another on Section 27, the latter being the Powell Memorial Church, erected in 1883. The Evangelicals have a church on Section 15, while the Christian Union stands on Section 30. All have regular services and fair-sized congregations.

Alba Postoffice.—Liberty has never had a village laid out within its present boundaries, and its nearest approach to such a convenience was the establishment of Alba postoffice at the house of Samuel Renninger, on Section 8, in 1857. In March, 1863, Mr. Renninger removed to Findlay, and appointed J. M. Moorhead to take charge of the office; but the latter went into the army in the spring of 1864, and the office was soon afterward abolished.

Cemeteries.—North of the Blanchard, on Section 7, is perhaps the oldest public cemetery in the township. Here, on a sloping hill overlooking the river, are buried many of the pioneers. Robert McKinnis and wife, Charles McKinnis and wife, Jacob Poe and wife, John Fishel, Sr., Job Chamberlin, Sr., and others of the very first settlers found their last resting place on this grass-covered hill. Another old graveyard is located on the ridge road in Section 21, where Isaac Comer, Peter Treece, Abraham Schoonover, John Povenmire and many other pioneers of Liberty Township and vicinity sleep their last sleep.

CHAPTER XIX.

MADISON TOWNSHIP.

First Attempt Made to Erect the Township, and Its Failure—Subsequent Erection—Derivation of Name, Area and Population—Surface Features and Streams—Forest and Soil—Milk Sickness—Pioneers—Justices—Grist-Mills—Schools—Religious Societies—Villages—Past and Present of Williamstown and Arlington.

AT a session held in March, 1840, a petition signed by Jacob Rosenberg, then sheriff of Hancock County, and others, was presented to the board of commissioners asking for the erection of a new township from parts of Eagle, Jackson, Van Buren and Delaware Townships, to be named Madison; but a remonstrance signed by Benjamin Sparr, John W. Williams, Sylvester Bell and many other citizens of that section of the county was filed against the proposed measure, and the prayer of the petitioners was denied. On the 1st of June, 1840, another petition was presented to the board signed by John W. Williams, Robert Hurd and others, praying that a township named Madison be formed from territory then embraced in Delaware and Van Buren, which was accordingly done, twelve sections being taken from each township in the erection of the new subdivision. The west half of Madison is in Township 2 south, Range 10, and the east half in Township 2 south, Range 11, the Bellefontaine road being the dividing line between the two ranges.

Madison Township was named in honor of James Madison, fourth President of the United States. It lies in the southern range of subdivisions, with Hardin County on the south, Van Buren Township on the west, Eagle and Jackson on the north, and Delaware on the east. It embraces twenty-four sections, or an area of 15,360 acres. In 1850 it contained 667 inhabitants; 1860, 844; 1870, 967, and 1880, 1,232.

The surface is generally level in the north part of the township, but slightly elevated, and rolling in the southern part, with a gradual descent from south to north, the natural drainage being all in that direction. The East Branch of Eagle Creek, rising in Hog Creek Marsh, strikes the south line of the township on Section 31, and taking a northwest course unites with the West Branch, near the southwest corner of Section 14. The West Branch flows in from Van Buren Township across the northwest quarter of Section 23, and, after uniting with the East Branch, the combined stream meanders northward along the west line of the township, passes into Eagle Township, near the northeast corner of Section 2, and thence northward to the Blanchard at Findlay. The southeast corner of the township is drained by Flat Branch, a sluggish tributary of the East Branch of Eagle Creek, into which it empties on the northeast quarter of Section 23. Buck Run heads in the east center of the township, and winding northwestward through Arlington strikes Eagle Creek near the line between Sections 1

and 2. The head of Lye Creek is located in the northeast corner of the township, whence it passes into Jackson. Thus it will be seen that Madison Township is well watered, and favored with good natural drainage.

This portion of the county was originally very heavily timbered, every species indigenous to the soil being found here in great abundance. But most of the more valuable kinds have disappeared, though much good timber yet remains. A rich vegetable loam, with a yellow and black clay subsoil, predominates, but in the bottoms along the streams the lands are usually composed of alluvial deposits. The upper strata on the flat or wet lands have been formed from the accumulations of decayed vegetation, and is a rich, black, sandy loam. Judicious drainage and tiling have rendered these wet lands very valuable.

Milk-sickness, or "trembles," was very prevalent in this part of the county during the earlier years of its settlement, and was much dreaded by the pioneers. Good medical authorities say that the disease came from the cattle eating a poisonous plant, which grew in moist places, such as white snakeroot and three-leafed poisonous ivy; while many intelligent farmers contend that the water contained the poisonous substance. Many deaths occurred from this disease before the physicians then practicing knew sufficient about it to overcome its deadly effects. Milk-sickness has not altogether disappeared from Hancock County, though it is now very rarely seen.

Pioneers.—The first settler of Madison Township was Simeon Ransbottom, a native of Virginia. He left home when but twelve years old, because of his father's severity, and in 1812 joined Hull's army. He served throughout the war of 1812, and at its close settled in Logan County, Ohio, where he married Rebecca Tullis, a native of Ireland, who bore him seven children, two of whom are living in Allen County, and one in Dunkirk, Hardin County, the latter, Amelia, being the widow of Henry Helms, of Madison Township. In the fall of 1825 Mr. Ransbottom and family left Logan County, and "squatted" on the bank of Eagle Creek, in Section 23, subsequently removing to the north half of the west half of the southwest quarter of Section 11. He afterward sold this to John Diller, and in 1836 bought the farm of Jacob Bolenbaugh on Section 14, where he resided till his death, October 5, 1851. Mr. Ransbottom was twice married, his second wife being Mrs. William J. Greer, *nee* Miss Rosannah Elder, who bore him six children, only two now living, one of whom, Jasper, resides in Dunkirk, and the other, Mrs. Catherine Elms, in Findlay. His widow survived him many years, and became the wife of Joseph Helms. Mr. Ransbottom was one of the seventy-four electors who voted at the first county election in April, 1828; and was also prominent in the organization of one of the first Methodist Protestant Churches in the southern part of the county.

Abel Tanner was the second settler of the township, locating in the northwest quarter of Section 23, on Eagle Creek, close to the cabin of Simeon Ransbottom, in February, 1826. Mr. William Tanner, of Dunkirk, a son of Abel, says: "My parents, Abel and Polly (Kinion) Tanner, were natives of Rhode Island, and with their family immigrated to Darby Plains, Madison Co., Ohio, in 1820. In 1823 we left Darby Plains, and traveling northwestward finally halted on 'Lynn Ridge,' about three miles southwest of Fort McArthur, in Hardin County. Here we built a cabin and began the work of opening a farm, but after remaining on Lynn Ridge till

February, 1826, we left our improvement and settled on Eagle Creek in the northwest quarter of Section 23, Madison Township, Hancock Co., Ohio. We were 'squatters,' and Simeon Ransbottom had 'squatted' on the same quarter the previous fall, and the Ransbottoms were living there when we arrived. My father afterward entered this land, and Ransbottom settled farther down the creek on Section 11. I was born in 1819, and therefore was in my seventh year when we left Lynn Ridge and took up our abode on Eagle Creek; but I remember the time and circumstances of that settlement as vividly as if it occurred only a year ago. William McCloud and family were then living in one of the block-houses at Fort McArthur, and his sons, William and Robert, often visited our cabin before and after our removal to Hancock County." Two or three years after the Tanners left Lynn Ridge, John Canaan took possession of their vacated improvement, which is now in Lynn Township, Hardin County. Mr. Tanner voted at the first county election in April, 1828, and in February, 1833, died upon his farm in this township, his widow dying the following year. Of his children, Mrs. Emeline Tullis, widow of John Tullis, resides in Forest, and William in Dunkirk, Hardin County, and Mrs. Adam Steinman in Van Buren Township, immediately west of the old homestead. The first Methodist Episcopal class in the township was organized at his house, and the first schoolhouse in this locality was built and opened on his farm. Mr. Tanner brought the first stock of dry goods to Findlay, which he took to the house of John P. Hamilton, who then lived up the Blanchard from the village, and got him to sell the goods to the settlers. There was but a very small assortment, yet heartily welcomed by the few families then residing in Hancock County.

Abner Hill and his wife and step-daughter were the next family who came to Madison Township. They located on Section 23, close to the west line of the township, in the winter of 1826–27, and there resided until the spring of 1835, when Hill broke into Carlin's store at Findlay, for which deed he was arrested, tried, and, on April 14, 1835, sentenced to the penitentiary for three years. It is claimed that he was the first person sent to the penitentiary from Hancock County. His family removed from the county and never returned.

John Tullis, a brother-in-law of Simeon Ransbottom, came from Bellefontaine, Logan Co., Ohio, in 1827, and for some time lived with Mr. Ransbottom. Bellefontaine was laid out on a part of his father's land in 1820. In April, 1828, he took part in the first county election. He began a clearing on the south half of the west half of the southwest quarter of Section 11, and upon his marriage with Miss Emeline, daughter of Abel Tanner, settled permanently upon his land. In the spring of 1835 he sold this forty-acre property to John Smith and removed to Van Buren Township. Mr. Tullis and family finally went to Missouri, where he died in 1871. His family returned to Ohio and settled in Dunkirk, and his widow is now living in Forest. One of his daughters, Mrs. Harriet Holmes, is a resident of Arlington. His brother, Griffin Tullis, came to the township two or three years after him, but remained only a brief period.

Thomas Ransbottom and John Diller located on Eagle Creek in 1828. The former settled near his brother Simeon, and after some four or five years' residence he removed to Allen County, Ohio. Diller and his wife, Catherine, were natives of Pennsylvania, but came here from New York, and purchased the improvement of Simeon Ransbottom on the west bank of

Eagle Creek in Section 11. He opened the first tavern in this part of the county, the buildings being two small log-cabins bearing the title of "The Cross Keys." This point afterward became locally known as "Waterloo," on account of the moral slaughter caused by a low grog-shop which stood here for many years. In May, 1833, Mr. Diller entered the northeast quarter of the southeast quarter of Section 10, Van Buren Township, adjoining his previous purchase on the west. About this time his wife died, leaving three small boys, who, with their father, went to live with Simeon Ransbottom. On the 29th of May, 1833, he sold out to William Moreland, and removed from the county a few years afterward.

In 1829 Aaron Kinion, Nathaniel Hill and James West all settled on Section 23. Kinion was a brother of Mrs. Abel Tanner, and with his family came from Rhode Island to Eagle Creek, afterward removing to Champaign County, Ohio. Hill, who was a widower, preceded his father-in-law, James West, to this township. Both died on the east half of the northeast quarter of Section 23, entered by West in 1831.

The years 1830 and 1831 brought in John Longwith, Jacob Helms, Jacob Bolenbaugh, William Moreland, Jr., and Nathan Lewis. Mr. Longwith entered the east half of the northeast quarter of Section 5, May 5, 1830, and the following August settled upon it. He was born in Virginia, whence he removed to Pickaway County, Ohio, there married Sarah Cherry, and at the time mentioned took up his abode in the northeast corner of what is now Madison Township. Here his wife died several years ago, and in October, 1884, he, too, passed away. Their daughter, Harriet, now lives upon the home farm.

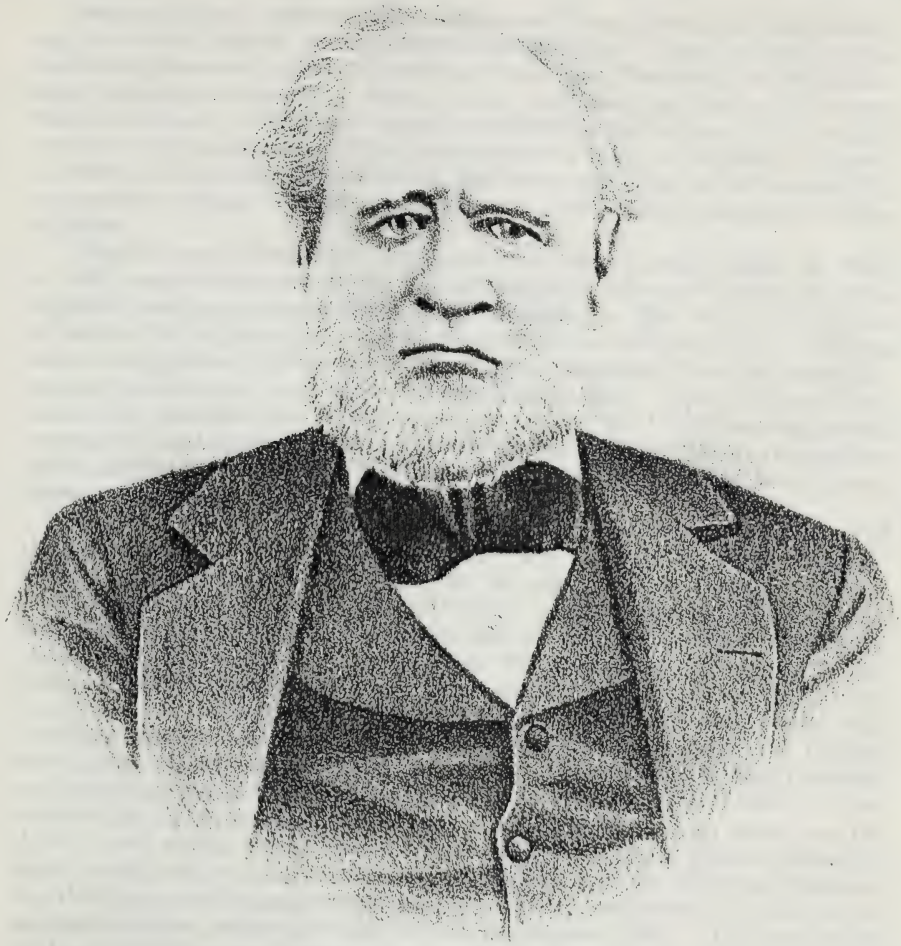
Jacob and Elizabeth Helms, natives of Pennsylvania, located on the northeast quarter of Section 2, in the fall of 1830. Their sons were John, Samuel, Jacob, Joseph, Henry and David, all of whom are well remembered in this locality. Mr. Helms accumulated sufficient property to give each son a nice farm. Both he and his wife died and were buried on the old homestead, where Levi, the son of Henry, now resides.

Jacob Bolenbaugh came in the spring of 1830, and in 1833 was elected justice of Van Buren Township, which then embraced the west half of Madison. He settled on Eagle Creek, on the east half of the northwest quarter of Section 14, but June 30, 1836, he sold his farm to Simeon Ransbottom. He had, however, removed to Union County the previous year. It is related that Bolenbaugh's reason for leaving was because of his dislike for the large number of Germans who were then entering land around him. If this story is correct, it was very fortunate for the township to get rid of such a man so easily.

William Moreland, Jr., removed from Findlay to this township in the spring of 1831, and in June of that year was elected the first justice of Van Buren township. In 1833 he purchased the improvement of John Diller, but in 1834 or 1835 moved back into Findlay Township, in the chapter on which township a more extended notice of the family will be found.

Nathan Lewis was one of those pioneers who lived by hunting. He squatted on Section 23, and is not believed to have ever owned any land in this locality.

Daniel and Elizabeth Rodabaugh, with their sons John, Abraham, Simon, Daniel, Jacob and Jonas, and three daughters, came from Columbiana County, Ohio, in April, 1832, and settled on Section 25, where Simon



John Moore



now lives. The parents and all of the children, except the two youngest, were born in Pennsylvania. Daniel and his wife died on the old homestead, and Abraham, Simon and Jonas, of this township, are the only survivors of the family.

Abraham Myers, wife and three step-sons, John, Jacob, and Isaac Bushong, also John Musser, came with the Rodabaughs. Myers settled on the southwest quarter of Section 30, and Jacob and Isaac Bushong lived with him. John Bushong and his wife, Anna, settled and died on Section 36, where their son, Simon, now lives. Isaac, who resides on Section 32, is the only one of the old stock living. The Bushongs were born in Virginia. Musser, a native of Pennsylvania, settled on the northwest quarter of Section 25, now owned by Simon Rodabaugh. His son, Jacob, resides southwest of the old farm.

Christian and Catherine Welty came from Perry County, Ohio, in 1833 or 1834, and for three weeks the family camped in the woods, while the rude log-cabin was being prepared for their occupancy. Mr. Welty's land was in Section 36, adjoining Williamstown on the west and south. In 1836 he was elected justice of the peace of Van Buren Township, to which subdivision he then belonged, and re-elected to the same office. Upon the establishment of a postoffice at Williamstown in 1835, Mr. Welty was appointed postmaster, and afterward opened a store in the village. He was a preacher in the Disciples Church, and both he and his wife died on the home place, where one of his sons yet resides.

In 1834 Robert Hurd entered several tracts of land in the north part of the township on Sections 1, 6 and 7. He was a native of East Haddam, Conn., born March 16, 1785. In 1820 he came out to Portage County, Ohio, as agent for Aaron and Moses Wilcox, original proprietors of Twinsburg Township, taken from Portage in the erection of Summit County in 1840. The Wilcox brothers were twins, from which circumstance Twinsburg derived its name. Mr. Hurd was married in Killingsworth, Middlesex Co., Conn., in 1807, to Miss Mary Brainerd, a native of that State, who bore him fourteen children, twelve of whom grew to maturity, and ten are now living. In the fall of 1834 two of the sons, William B. and Lorenzo, and a son-in-law, Joseph Fitch, located in this township, and built a cabin on the site of Arlington. Here they remained clearing up their land till April, 1839, when their brothers, Anson and Jared Hurd, joined the settlement, built a cabin close to the first one erected, and the following September the father and balance of the family came out, and took possession of the second residence, where his wife died in September, 1842. In 1844 Robert laid out the village of Arlington. In 1859 he was elected justice of the peace, and died in February, 1861. Of their children, two sons reside in Findlay, and one daughter in Arlington. Dr. Anson Hurd, a leading physician of Findlay, is the best known of the family.

Adam Essinger, Martin Funk and Napoleon B. Martz all came to the township in 1834. Mr. Essinger and his wife, Catherine, emigrated from Germany to Pennsylvania in 1832, thence removed to Hancock County, with the families of his brother, Nicholas, Adam Gossman and Peter Pifer in the fall of 1834, locating on Section 14, Madison Township, where he soon afterward died. His widow and three children are residents of the township. Martin Funk and family were from Pennsylvania. He settled on Section 14, on the east bank of Eagle Creek, where he erected a grist-mill in 1838. He

ran this mill for a number of years, and it was subsequently operated by his son, John. Mr. Funk and wife and some of the children finally went to Michigan, but he came back on a visit and died at the house of Richard Sims. Mr. Martz was born in Virginia, and came here a single man, subsequently marrying Mrs. Hannah Nichols, *nee* Woodruff. He served one term as justice of the peace, and resided here until 1874, when he and his wife removed to Illinois, where both are still living. Their son, Dorillas, resides upon the old homestead in Section 14.

John W. Williams was born in Maryland, April 20, 1800, and came of Revolutionary stock. The family removed to Tuscarawas County, Ohio, at an early day, where Mr. Williams remained till the fall of 1833, when, taking his wife and family in a wagon, he started West, arriving at Kenton, the newly laid out county seat of Hardin County, in the early part of October. At the first public sale Mr. Williams purchased several choice lots facing the square, then covered with the original forest, upon one of which he erected a large, two-storied, hewed-log building, and immediately opened a tavern "for the convenience of man and beast." He also kept a small store in one corner of the bar-room, his trade being principally powder, lead and flints. The sessions of the court of common pleas were held in this tavern until the completion of the Court House. Mr. Williams had the contract for the erection of that building, which he finished in 1835. He dealt extensively in peltry, handling thousands of skins in 1834 and 1835. His son, J. W. F. Williams, of Washington, D. C., writes as follows about his father's removal to Hancock County: "It being reported and believed that the Mad River & Lake Erie Railroad would locate its line six miles east of Kenton, and the county seat be moved to a place known as 'Wheeler's,' he sold all of his property, had the town site of Williamstown surveyed, and moved there in the winter of 1835–36." Though the move proved a bad one, Mr. Williams soon became a prominent factor in the southern part of Hancock. He opened a tavern and store, and was the second postmaster of the village, which position he filled many years. In 1846 he was elected justice of the peace, and re-elected nine times in succession, his death occurring September 23, 1873, while filling his last term. A modest headstone marks his grave in the little cemetery near the village which perpetuates his name.

During 1835 Abraham Williams, John Smith, Nicholas Price and Andrew Ricketts, with their families, settled in the township. Williams built his cabin in the northeast quarter of Section 11, in March, 1835. He and his wife, Mary Ann, were from Pennsylvania. She died here and he afterward went to Nebraska. John Smith, a German, came here from Jefferson County, Ohio, in the spring of 1835. He purchased the southwest quarter of the southwest quarter of Section 11, of John Tullis, and took up his residence in the Tullis cabin. He died at the home of his son, Peter, in Van Buren Township. Nicholas and Elizabeth Price, natives of Germany, settled on Section 14, near the west line of the township, in the fall of 1835. They were the parents of nine children, and both died upon the old homestead. Four of their sons reside in this county: George in Van Buren Township, Nicholas E. and Philip in Madison, and Peter in Findlay. Andrew and Mary Ricketts came from Fairfield County, Ohio, in November, 1835, and settled west of Eagle Creek, on the east half of the southwest quarter of Section 2. In 1837 he was elected justice of the

peace of Van Buren Township, in which subdivision his home was then included, and served one term. In 1841 he was elected county commissioner, which position he also filled one term. Mr. Ricketts accumulated a comfortable property, and died in October, 1865. The family subsequently removed to Findlay, where his widow is now living.

The next few years brought in a large number of settlers, among the first of whom we find Alexander Grant, George Kibler, Richard Sims (now of Arlington), Solomon Watkins, William Hodge, John Spacht and others. But the brunt of the struggle was now past, and these later comers found friends ready to assist them in the work of opening homes in the forest then covering the land.

Justices.—As this township was not erected till 1840, some of its pioneers served as justices of Van Buren prior to that date, and their names will be found in the list of that township. The justices of Madison have been as follows: Solomon Watkins, Joseph Leslie, Thomas Reese, Napoleon B. Martz, John W. Williams, Joel Markle, L. P. Wing, Robert Hurd, David Wardwell, L. D. Wiseman, Philip P. Wilch, Peter Wilch, Ezra Longworth, J. C. Clingerman, James Huff, Thomas H. Bushong, Dorillas Martz and Ellis Clingerman. The last mentioned and James Huff are the present incumbents of the office.

Grist-mills.—The first grist-mill was built in 1838 by Martin Funk on the northeast bank of Eagle Creek in Section 11. It was operated by water-power supplied by a race cut across the bend in the creek. This mill, like all those erected at an early day, was of great value to the pioneers. About ten years ago it ceased operations, and in the summer of 1885 was torn down and the frame removed by Peter Traucht to Arlington, where it was used in the construction of the steam grist-mill in that village, which is now in running order and the only flouring-mill in the township.

Schools.—A small log schoolhouse was built about 1833-34 on the farm of Abel Tanner in Section 23. It was taught by Charles Herron, and the few families then living in that locality sent their children to this school. It was the first attempt at education in this part of the county. The next schoolhouse was put up on the farm of John Diller, in Section 11, as early as 1838. The Ransbottoms, Funks, Watkinses, Prices, Gossmans, Pifers, Heldmans, Smiths and others attended here. In 1840 a school was taught by Miss Harriet Fitch, in a log-cabin on the site of Arlington. Miss Jane Bigelow, was the second teacher of this school. About 1841 a small round-log schoolhouse was built in Williamstown—the first in the south part of the township. Other houses soon made their appearance, until in a few years every portion of the township had a school for the education of its youth. Madison has now eight schoolhouses, that in Arlington containing two rooms, and no child, rich or poor, need grow up without such educational advantages as the public schools afford.

Religious Societies.—A class of the Methodist Episcopal denomination was organized by Rev. Thomas Thompson, about 1830, at the house of Abel Tanner, the Tanners and Kinions being its only members. Services were held at intervals at private houses and schoolhouses, but in 1858 this denomination erected a frame building in Arlington, which is yet in use. The Methodist Protestant Church organized a society about 1833, in what is now Van Buren Township, though some of its members lived in Madison. About 1854-55 they erected Mount Moriah Church on Section 22, Van

Buren Township, and also one in Arlington soon after the Methodist Episcopal denomination built theirs. The Arlington Church is the only building owned by the Methodist Protestants in this township; while the Methodist Episcopals have another society and church at Williamstown. The Disciples have a church at the latter village, Arlington and Williamstown each containing two churches. Other denominations have held services in the township, yet none but those mentioned have ever had an organized society, except perhaps the German Baptists, who, as early as 1835–36, held meetings in the Rodabaugh settlement, and may have effected an organization, though they never had any house of worship in Madison.

Villages.—Williamstown was laid out by John W. Williams April 23, 1834, on the northeast corner of Section 36 and the northwest corner of Section 31, thirteen miles directly south of Findlay, and originally contained forty-eight lots. The Bellefontaine road had been surveyed and partly opened, but there was only a rude wagon track through this township when Williamstown was surveyed. In 1835 Mr. Williams erected a log building, and late that year removed from Kenton and opened a tavern in the forest then covering the site of his village. The same year a post-office named "Eagle" was established here, and Christian Welty appointed postmaster, who also opened a store about 1837. Mr. Welty's successors in the postoffice have been as follows: John W. Williams, Dr. B. D. Evans, John B. De Haven and Dr. B. D. Evans. In 1866 the name of the office was changed to Williamstown. The first resident physician was Dr. Smith, but Dr. John F. Perky, who came afterward, is much better remembered, as he practiced here many years ere his removal to Findlay. The village has never had much prosperity and wears a general appearance of decay. Dunkirk on the south and Arlington on the north are fast sapping whatever business life it now contains. Its population in 1880 was 128, and its present business interests embrace one general grocery store, one drug store, a steam saw, shingle and lath-mill, a wagon shop, two blacksmith shops, a shoe shop and three physicians. The Methodist Episcopal and Disciples denominations have each a church in the village, and a school is also located here.

West Union was laid out by Andrew Sheller in the southeast corner of Section 36, December 25, 1834, but no buildings were ever erected on the site.

Arlington lies nine miles south of Findlay, on the Bellefontaine State road, and was laid out by Robert Hurd, in November, 1844, in the southeast corner of Section 1 and the southwest corner of Section 6, lying on each side of the State road. Several additions have since been made to the original town. In 1846 Dr. Belizur Beach erected a brick hotel, and the following year the store-room now occupied by Richard Sims. He opened the hotel himself, but rented the other building to Truman Parker and Lorenzo P. Wing, who, under the firm name of Parker & Wing, opened a general store. After about a year Dr. Beach and Joel Markle bought out Parker & Wing, and carried on the business till 1855, and were then succeeded by Thomas Stark, a son-in-law of Robert Hurd. Lovell Parker opened a blacksmith shop in 1846, and Edwin B. Vail was the first brick-mason of the village. Drs. Beach and W. K. Drake were the earliest resident physicians. In 1846 Martins Town postoffice was removed from the house of Hathaway R. Warner, north of the village in Jackson Township, to Arling-

ton, and Dr. Belizur Beach appointed postmaster of Arlington postoffice, the name being changed at the time of removal. His successors have been Lorenzo P. Wing, Edwin B. Vail, Dr. W. K. Drake, Thomas Stark, Philip Wilch, Dr. L. S. Lafferty, E. P. Lease, Dr. C. F. King and Holmes Wheeler.

The census of 1880 gave Arlington a population of 136, but its citizens now claim between 300 and 400 inhabitants. Its business interests are represented by one general dry goods and grocery store, two general grocery stores, one drug store, a good hardware store, a grist-mill and elevator, a steam saw and planing-mill, two steam saw-mills, a boot and shoe store and harness shop, two wagon shops, two blacksmith shops, a pump factory, a lath-mill, an undertaker's shop, two tileyards, one brickyard, a good hotel and livery stable and three saloons. Drs. L. S. Lafferty, C. F. King and J. L. Asire are the resident physicians of the town. The Methodist Episcopals and Methodist Protestants have each a church here; while a graded school of two rooms furnishes good educational facilities. On the 12th of October, 1882, Welker Post, No. 266, G. A. R., was organized with thirty charter members, and has now about the same membership. The Cleveland, Delphos & St. Louis Narrow Guage Railroad was completed to Arlington in the fall of 1882, and the first through train came over the road from Delphos to Mt. Blanchard January 1, 1883. Much more was expected of this enterprise than it has been able to accomplish, and it will never be of any great utility to this section until it is changed to a standard guage. This is now talked of, and the citizens of Arlington have strong hopes that it will yet be accomplished.

CHAPTER XX.

MARION TOWNSHIP.

Erection, Area, Boundaries and Population—Timber—Streams and Deer Licks—Soil—Pioneers—Early Elections and Electors—Justices of the Peace—Schools—Churches—Crow Postoffice—Mills.

PRIOR to December 6, 1830, the territory now composing Marion Township was included in Findlay and Amanda, but on that date the commissioners erected Marion, which then embraced, besides its present territory, what is now known as Cass Township, or a total of forty-eight sections. The latter subdivision was cut off and organized into a new township March 4, 1833, leaving Marion as it stands to-day, with twenty-four sections, or an area of 15,360 acres of land, all lying in Township 1 north, Range 11 east. It is claimed that this township was named in honor of Gen. Francis Marion, a dashing cavalry leader of the war of Independence. Marion is bounded on the north by Cass Township, on the east by Big Lick, on the south by Amanda and Jackson, and on the west by Findlay. In 1840 it contained a population of 707; 1850, 904; 1860, 1,064; 1870, 990; 1880, 987. The census of 1860 gives the township 77 inhabitants more than that of 1880, which indi-

cates that the farms increased in acreage, or that the civilization of the past quarter of a century has been productive of small families.

The timber was originally about the same as in other parts of the county: oak, walnut, elm, ash, maple, poplar, beech, linn, sycamore, cherry, buckeye, hackberry and cottonwood predominating. The more valuable woods have become very scarce, as the first settlers thought only of clearing the soil of what they then looked upon as an incumbrance.

The Blanchard River strikes the south line of the township, near the southeast corner of Section 35, flows due north until near the northeast corner of Section 23, where it turns abruptly westward, and leaves the township in the southwest corner of Section 16. Several small runs drain the north part of the township into the Blanchard, while two or three come in from the south and east. The Prairie Outlet is the most important of these, as it principally drains the large body of wet prairie lands extending clear across Big Lick Township to the Seneca County line, discharging its waters into the Blanchard at the sharp turn or elbow on Section 23. Lye Creek crosses the southwest corner of Marion, and flowing northwestward empties into the Blanchard in the eastern suburb of Findlay. The Blanchard and its tributaries afford first-class drainage and stock facilities, though good water may be found at a slight depth in any part of the township. Along the river, on the farm of Allen Wiseley, in Section 23, are several deer licks, which were a great resort for both Indian and white hunters throughout the pioneer days. Mr. Wiseley says when he settled there in the fall of 1830, there were seats in several trees near the licks, which he supposes had been constructed by the Indians. Comfortably seated in a tree close by, the hunter easily shot down the unsuspecting deer, and thus secured his game without much exertion.

This township possesses some very choice lands. The bottoms along the Blanchard are composed of alluvial and vegetable deposits, and the soil is very fertile. Back from the river, in the south part of the township, a rich loam prevails, while a mixture of clay and sand is found in the northern portion. A narrow strip of the prairie extends along the outlet into this township, and makes very good pasture land.

Pioneers.—The first land entry in this township was made by Elnathan Cory November 28, 1822. He took up the northeast quarter of the north east quarter of Section 21, probably with an eye to its importance as a mill site. October 24, 1825, the south part of the northeast quarter of Section 23, also on the Blanchard, was entered by Alexander Robertson. These lands, however, were taken up as a speculation and not for settlement. It was not till 1827 that an opening was made in the forest of Marion. In that year Joseph A. Sargent built his cabin on the east half of the northwest quarter of Section 21, the farm now owned by George Burns. Sargent came to the county with his widowed mother early in 1826, and resided for a short time in Findlay. He subsequently married Elizabeth De Witt, daughter of Joseph De Witt, and sister of Mrs. Pärlee Carlin. Squire Carlin says Sargent was living with his mother on the Burns farm in the fall of 1827. He was one of the voters at the first county election April 7, 1828, and also at the organization of the township in April, 1831. In May, 1831, he sold his land to Barnabas De Witt, and soon afterward removed to Wood County, where some of his children still reside.

Asher Wickham, a brother of John C. Wickham the pioneer school

teacher, was the second settler of the township. He "squatted" on the south bank of the Blanchard, in the southwest corner of Section 16, the property now owned by Thomas J. Burns. Wickham leased that corner of the school section, and in the fall of 1827 put up a little log-cabin upon it. He, too, was a voter in April, 1828, and one of the thirteen electors who organized Marion Township. He raised a family of several children; George, William and Amos being the sons. Wickham lived on several different pieces of land, and after a residence in the township of about twenty-five years, he and his wife removed to Wood County and there died.

Othniel Wells, an uncle of Joseph A. Sargent, came in 1828 and located on the west half of the northeast quarter of Section 15. He intended entering this land but could never raise the money, and upon its entry by Rezin Ricketts, in October, 1830, he made up his mind to quit the county. He remained, however, through the following winter, and after assisting in organizing the township in April, 1831, removed to the Tymochtee.

Joshua Powell and his wife and son, Eli, and nephew Nutter Powell, came to Findlay in the summer of 1828, erected a house, and planted a small patch of corn where the residence of E. P. Jones now stands. The season was very dry, and the crop proved a failure. In the meantime Mr. Powell purchased a part of the northwest quarter of Section 22, Marion Township; there built a cabin, and in the spring of 1829 removed into it. In December, 1829, John Trout and family, on their way to the settlement on the site of Van Buren, staid over night "at the house of a Mr. Powell, about three miles above Findlay." This was Joshua Powell's cabin. He was one of the thirteen electors who cast their votes at the first township election in April, 1831. After a brief residence here Mr. Powell sold out and with his family removed to Putnam County.

Willis Ward and family came from Gallia County, Ohio, in the spring of 1829, and "squatted" north of the Blanchard on Section 16. When Allen Wiseley came to the township in the fall of 1830, Ward had a clearing of several acres around his cabin. He was a noted hunter, and spent most of his time slaughtering the wild denizens of the forest, principally for the bounty then paid by the county for the scalps of the more dangerous animals. His father, Stephen, and brother, Charles, joined him in 1830, but settled on Section 15. In April, 1832, Willis was elected justice of the peace, being the second in the township, but died soon after, and was buried on his father's farm, now the homestead of George W. Wiseley. His family went back to Gallia County, whither Charles and his wife also returned, the parents going to Wood County.

In the spring of 1830 Major Bright, his wife, Deborah, and family came into the township, and settled on Section 21, the farm now occupied by his son, Levi. Mr. Bright was a native of Maryland, born April 11, 1777, and his children were as follows: Susan, Mary, Amelia, Lurany, Nimrod, John, Amos and Levy, of whom Nimrod and Levi are the only survivors. Soon after settling in the township Mr. Bright began entering land for his children and ultimately became the largest land owner of this portion of the county. He took part in the organization of the township in April, 1831, was the first justice elected therein, and in 1835 was appointed associate judge *vice* John W. Baldwin, resigned, but served only till the meeting of the General Assembly, in 1836. Major Bright died March 2, 1843, his widow surviving him more than thirty years, dying November 4, 1874, in the

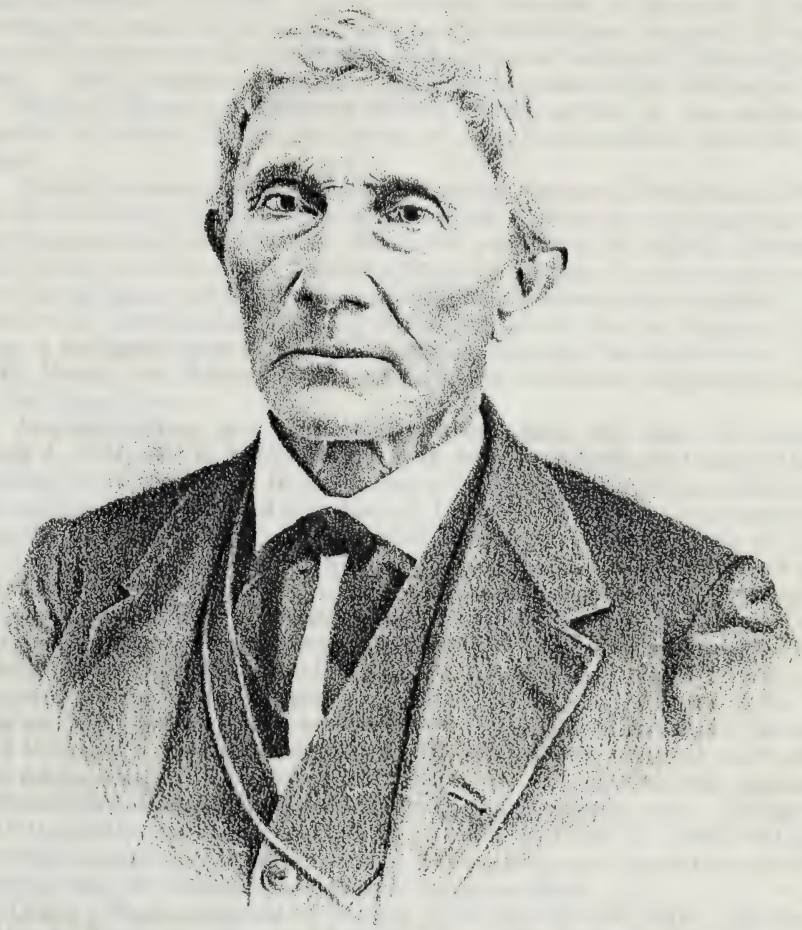
ninety-third year of her age. They sleep side by side in the handsome little public cemetery, located on the old homestead. Of their two living children Nimrod married Harriet Wiseley, sister of Allen Wiseley, of Marion Township, and settled first in Big Lick, whence he removed to Amanda, and is now residing in Vanlue. Levi has always lived upon the old homestead, where the parents died. Many of Major Bright's descendants are living in this county, and his two sons are among its wealthiest farmers.

Edward Bright, a nephew of Major Bright, also came in the spring of 1830, and voted at the first township election. He took up land, and for a time ran a tannery in Findlay. He never married, and died at the home of Allen Wiseley, with whom he lived much of his time.

Adam Beard and Justin Smith came in from Amanda Township in 1829–30, and took a contract to clear a piece of land in Section 25 for David Egbert. Beard's parents settled in Amanda Township late in 1827, as some of the family voted at the first county election in April, 1828, and Adam a couple of years afterward came to this township, where he has ever since resided. He was born in 1808, and is now old and feeble. Justin Smith lived only a short time in this township, then removed to one of the southern townships. Both he and Beard were voters at the first township election in April, 1831.

Jacob Baker, a native of Virginia, was married in Fairfield County, Ohio, to Miss Susannah, daughter of Major Bright, and thence removed to Seneca County. He was a son of John Baker, who settled in the north part of Findlay Township. In 1830 he located on Section 24, close to his father-in-law, and the following spring assisted in organizing the township. About 1837–38 he took part in the organization of a class of the Methodist Episcopal denomination, and subsequently gave the land upon which the society erected a church. His wife died, and he married the widow of Leonard Baumgartner. The family removed to Wood County prior to the Rebellion.

Allen Wiseley was born in Fairfield County, Ohio, February 20, 1809, there grew to manhood, and in October, 1830, left his father's home, and in a few days drew up his horse at the cabin of Major Bright, in the forest of Marion Township. He had known the Brights in Fairfield County, and the friendship begun there between young Wiseley and Amelia Bright, soon ripened into a warmer affection, and on the 2d of November, 1830, they were married by Aquilla Gilbert, then a justice of Jackson Township. He at once settled north of the Blanchard, in the southeast quarter of Section 14. It is a coincidence worthy of mention that Mrs. Wiseley was born in Fairfield County, on the same date as her husband. She reared a family of seven children, five of whom are living, and all settled in the county. After a happy married life of more than forty-eight years, Mrs. Wiseley passed away, her death occurring December 9, 1868. She was a member of the United Brethren Church from early womanhood, to which Mr. Wiseley has also adhered since the same period. In April, 1831, Mr. Wiseley assisted in organizing Marion Township, and has served five terms as justice of the peace. During his official life he was very popular, and made scores of young couples happy by tying the marriage knot. On the 18th of July, 1882, he married Mrs. Mary Clinchie, *nee* Cahill, who has borne him one daughter. Mr. Wiseley operated a tannery in Findlay in 1831–32, and has been very successful in the accumulation of real estate. He has given each



Daniel Yeller



of his children a good farm, reserving the old homestead for his own residence during his declining years.

Edwin S. Jones located in Findlay in the fall of 1827, and in April, 1828, was clerk of the polls and voted at the first county election. At the general election October 14, 1828, he was elected treasurer of Hancock County, serving two years, during which time he also carried on a tanyard. In 1831 he sold his tannery to Edward Bright, and settled on Section 15, Marion Township. After a residence here of a few years he removed to Chillicothe, Ill.

Michael Myers, of Pickaway County, Ohio, settled in the southwest quarter of Section 28, in the spring of 1831, and resided there till his death.

About the same time that Myers effected a settlement, Barnabas De Witt, of Gallia County, Ohio, located in the south part of the east part of the northeast quarter of Section 21, which he purchased of William Hackney in February, 1831. The following May he bought Joseph A. Sargent's land in the same section, and immediately removed to Sargent's cabin. He was one of the thirteen voters of April, 1831, and died in August, 1832, from a malignant type of fever then raging through the settlement. His wife, Nancy, and three children, subsequently went back to their old home on the Ohio River.

Joseph Johnson, long a citizen of this township, was born in Virginia April 4, 1801, and in 1811 removed with his parents to Scioto County, Ohio, settling at Portsmouth. In the spring of 1827 his father, Isaac, came with his family to Findlay, and both he and Joseph voted at the first county election the following April. Late in 1830 or early in 1831, he built a cabin on Section 15, Marion Township, and took part in the organization of this subdivision. In 1832 he married Susan George, daughter of Henry George, of Amanda Township, and settled permanently on his new farm. He was the third sheriff of the county, and in 1836 assisted in erecting the first schoolhouse in the township of Marion. Mrs. Johnson died in 1850, and he married Jane Dudgeon, who passed away in 1879. He is the father of fourteen children, of whom twelve survive, living in this county, Indiana and Michigan. He resided in Marion till 1853, thence removed to Portage Township, where he has since principally lived. In 1863 he was appointed postmaster of Portage Center, and held the office sixteen years. He united with the Methodist Episcopal Church in 1870, and now in feeble, old age, patiently awaits the Master's call, for, having long since passed the allotted time of man, he feels that his days on earth are short.

Charles Thomas located on Section 10 in the fall of 1831. He was a native of Virginia, and came with his wife, Mary (Ripley) Thomas, and ten children, to this county. Mr. Thomas was one of the earliest justices of the township, in which capacity he served one term. The parents died here, and of the ten children but three survive, and only two, Lewis and William, are residents of Marion Township.

David and Mary Egbert, natives of New Jersey, removed to the Susquehanna River, and in 1812 came from Pennsylvania to Fairfield County, Ohio. In 1822 the family settled in Seneca County, and in 1829 took up land in Amanda and Marion Townships, settling in the former subdivision the same year. In the spring of 1831 the parents removed into Marion, and the following year David was elected justice of the peace. He was the father of ten children, six of whom are now living. After several years' residence in this township David and his wife removed to Wood County.

John Aultman, a native of Pennsylvania, with his wife, Delilah, settled in the southwest part of the township in 1832. They reared a family of nine children—seven sons and two daughters—eight of whom survive, and seven are residents of Hancock County, where the parents resided till their death.

Adam and Hannah Altman, parents of Daniel Altman of Marion Township, came to this township in 1833, and here entered 480 acres of land from the government, on which they remained until their death; Adam died in 1863 in his eighty-fifth year, and his wife in 1848.

William Davis was born in Maryland in 1808, there grew to manhood, and in 1830 married Mary Lafferty, who bore him seven sons and five daughters. Three years after marriage he immigrated to this county, and in the spring of 1834 settled on Section 11, Marion Township, where he resided till his death at Bowling Green, Ky., in January, 1863. He served four consecutive terms as justice of the peace, and one term as commissioner of Hancock County. By rigid industry, untiring energy and shrewd business tact he accumulated a large estate, upon a part of which his descendants now reside. For many years he was one of the leading stock-dealers of this portion of the State, few of Hancock's pioneers attaining such a marked success in that line.

Two other settlers of this period were Jacob Iler and Ambrose Jaqua. The former and his wife, Catherine, emigrated from Germany, and took up their abode in Pickaway County, Ohio, whence in 1833 they removed to Section 28, Marion Township, where they passed the balance of their lives. They were the parents of five children, two of whom are living, Jacob, Jr., being the only one residing in Hancock. He and his wife, Mary, came with his parents, and both have lived in the township since the fall of 1833. Mr. Jaqua is still a resident of the township; he was born in Lower Canada, in 1813, his father, Richard, being a Frenchman, and his mother, Elizabeth, a Canadian. The family came to Seneca County, Ohio, in 1820, and in 1833 Ambrose became a resident of this township. In March, 1836, he married Leticia Egbert, daughter of David Egbert, and settled permanently on a piece of land in Section 25, entered in October, 1835, where he has ever since resided. Of their nine children, seven are yet living.

Rezin Ricketts though entering land in October, 1830, did not locate in the township till 1835. He was born in Fairfield County, Ohio, of Pennsylvania parentage; in 1836 he married Mary Hess, of which union three children survive. He served as justice of the peace for eighteen consecutive years, and after a residence in Marion Township of about thirty years, he removed to Amanda, where his wife died. Mr. Ricketts is now residing with his son Jasper, in Amanda Township.

William Marvin is another pioneer of 1835, settling in the township in June of that year. He was born in Pennsylvania, in July, 1798; married Mabel Roberts in 1818; removed to Wayne County, Ohio, in 1823, and to Hancock in October, 1834. With him came his brother, Matthias, and family, and both families, seventeen in all, passed the winter of 1834–35, in a small log-cabin. The following June, William, who was a carpenter, purchased and settled upon a small piece of land north of the Blanchard, in Section 22, where he soon afterward erected a grist and saw-mill, the first mill in the township. This he subsequently sold to Mr. Swabb, and erected a steam-mill farther up the river. His wife died in 1852; she was the mother

of sixteen children, fourteen of whom are living. In 1879 Mr. Marvin removed to Findlay, where he died the following year at a ripe old age. He was a very useful citizen, and during his residence in Marion Township served two terms as justice of the peace.

John Burns was born in Westmoreland County, Penn., in 1764, whence he emigrated to Richland County, Ohio, where he was twice married. By his first wife one daughter survives, residing in Richland County, His second wife, was Mrs. Rosannah Reznor, a widow, whom he married in 1824. She was a native of Maryland, and left two sons by this marriage, George W. and Thomas J., both of whom are living upon the old homestead in Marion Township, where the family settled in 1835 or 1836. The parents died here, the father December 31, 1843, and the mother in 1864. This land was the first piece settled in the township, Joseph A. Sargent and Asher Wickham locating upon it in 1827.

Henry Snyder (deceased), father of Henry Snyder, the well-known producer and dealer in thorough-bred Poland-China hogs, was a noted pioneer of the township.

Daniel Opp and Benjamin Wise, natives of Pennsylvania, settled on the Blanchard about 1836–37. The former erected a frame tavern in the southeast corner of Section 15, which he kept till his death, which occurred two or three years after settlement. Wise had eleven children, nine of whom are yet living, some of them residents of the township. By this time log-cabins dotted nearly every portion of Marion, and the feeling of isolation which haunted the first settlers no longer existed. Many families came in from 1835 to 1840, who had to make for themselves homes in the unbroken forest, but the brunt of the struggle was past, borne by those who settled here prior to 1836. Some of the later comers purchased the improvements, —consisting of a cabin and a small clearing—of the real pioneers, who came when the forest was unbroken, and inhabited only by roving bands of Indians and wild beasts.

Early Election and Electors.—The first election for justice of the peace of Marion Township was held at the house of Edwin S. Jones, June 11, 1831. Joshua Powell, Jacob Baker and David Egbert were the judges, and Edwin S. Jones and Barnabas DeWitt, clerks. The following list of voters indicates who the pioneers were, though a few of the first settlers did not vote at this election: Justin Smith, Joshua Powell, Jacob Baker, Stephen Smith, Joseph Johnson, Asher Wickham, Allen Wiseley, William Wiseley, Edward Bright, Major Bright, Edwin S. Jones, Barnabas DeWitt and David Egbert. Major Bright received 7 votes, Asher Wickham 5 votes, and Willis Ward 1 vote; total, 13. Major Bright was therefore declared elected.

Justices of the Peace.—Major Bright, Willis Ward, David Egbert, Charles Thomas, Allen Wiseley, Albert Ramsey, Rezin Ricketts, William Marvin, William Davis, Daniel Alspach, Benjamin J. McRill, Isaac Davis, Michael Glauner, Amasa Buckingham, James Wilson, Andrew Bish, Charles S. Johnston and William B. Miller; the last mentioned and James Wilson are the present incumbents.

Schools.—The first schoolhouse, a small log building, was erected in 1836, on the farm of William Marvin, in the north part of Section 22. The school was taught by Adam Robinson and was attended by the Wickhams, Brights, Wiseleys, Johnsons, Thomases, Egberts, Bakers and Plummers. The second schoolhouse, also a log structure, was put up in the

south part of Section 26. It was called the "Woodward schoolhouse," and was erected two or three years after that built on Section 22. As the township settled up more thickly, other buildings made their appearance. All of the first schoolhouses were built of logs, which in time gave place to the neater frame structures. These have been replaced by substantial brick buildings, six of which now supply good educational facilities to the school youth of the township.

Churches.—The Baptist Church organized the first society in the township, and a log building was subsequently erected on the farm of William Davis, in Section 11, which served the little congregation for many years. This was replaced by a Union building called the "Union Bethel," wherein any orthodox denomination may hold services. The Baptists have now no organization in this township, though they occasionally hold services at the Union Bethel.

Soon after the Baptist class was organized a society of the United Brethren denomination came into existence. It had its inception about 1838, at the first log schoolhouse erected on the Blanchard in Section 22. Major Bright and wife, John Bright, Allen Wiseley and wife, Nimrod Bright and wife, Samuel Essex, Elizabeth Mains and Charity Essex, were its principal organizers. They met in private houses or in the old log school buildings till the erection of a frame church in Section 24, on land donated by John Bright. This building is yet standing, but in 1884 a handsome brick structure was erected immediately east of it, which was opened in the spring of 1885. This denomination has three societies in Marion Township, but only two buildings. One of the organizations hold meetings at the Union Bethel.

A class of the Methodist Episcopal denomination was organized by Rev. Thomas Thompson at the cabin of Leonard Baumgartner, on Section 29, Big Lick Township, as early as 1837–38. Jacob Baker and wife, of Marion, and the Robertses and Baumgartners, of Big Lick, belonged to this society. They built a frame church near the east line of Section 24, Marion Township, on the land of Jacob Baker, but after some years the society dwindled away, and the building was sold to Mr. Corbin, who removed it to his farm. The Methodists subsequently organized another society in the western part of the township, and put up a frame building in the southwest corner of Section 15. This church is still in active operation.

Crow Postoffice.—Daniel Opp erected a frame tavern on the southeast corner of Section 15 in 1836–37, which he carried on for the convenience of the traveling public. Soon after its completion a petition for a postoffice to be called "Crow" was forwarded to Washington. The request was granted and the office established, with Mr. Opp as postmaster, but upon his death, some two or three years afterward, the office was discontinued. This was the only postoffice Marion has ever possessed within her limits. Its site is now the home of George W. Wiseley.

Mills.—The first grist and saw mill in this township was built on the north bank of the Blanchard, in Section 22, by William Marvin, in 1835–36. After a few years he sold these mills to Mr. Swabb, who in turn disposed of the property to William Gillespie. The latter failed to make them pay, and stopped running them. The power was furnished by a race from the Blanchard, but the buildings were torn down many years ago. Some time after selling these mills, Mr. Marvin erected a steam grist and saw mill

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